C.O. Handley, Jr.

Arctic Operations
Summer 1946

Journal and Bird/Mammal Notes

Arctic Operation

Summer

1946

9 June 125 traps

Sciurionomys 1

Peromyscus 1

Zaiura 3

9 June 10 traps

Sciurionomys 5

Peromyscus 2

Blasina 1

C.O. Handley, Jr.
22 June 1946

22 June 1946. Blacksburg, Virginia to Richmond, Virginia. Left Blacksburg at 5:45 P.M. with equipment for Arctic trip. Arrived Richmond 10:30 PM. Spent following day in conference with C.P. Patton and C.O. Handley reviewing and discussing Virginia mammal manuscript.

24 June 1946. Richmond, Virginia to Washington, D.C. Left Richmond 4:30 A.M., arrived Washington 7:30 A.M. Contacted F.C. Lincoln, H.H.T. Jackson, Remington Kellogg, etc. Proceeded to Patuxent Refuge to be sworn in and talked with Dr. Martin relative to Arctic plants. Completed work on mammal MS and sent it by my father to be turned in to the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries in Richmond. Reviewed groups of arctic and marine birds in the National museum and Fish and Wildlife service collections and made notes on characteristics of various seals. Discussed various problems with Duvall.

27 June 1946. Washington, D.C. to Boston, Mass. Left Washington

apparently radar does not work as well in these high latitudes as had been anticipated, the high frequency air search radar in particular. While it should be effective at a 200 mile max. radius its actual capacity here is much less and it has been of practically no value in locating planes. Possibly the densely stratified cloud layers are responsible for the failure – so they say. The lower frequency horizontal search so worked better. Radar scopes I have seen have 5, 20, 40, 80, & 200 mile frequencies which may be selected by the turning of a knob. Another adjustment draws a light line across the view field which reads miles or yards from the scope on a dial. On calm water it picks up even small chunks of ice, but in rough water it is effective only for bergs and even for them it is not reliable.

Northwind commissioned 28 July 1945 - first anniversary celebrated in Dundas Harbor, Devon Island with gala dinner.

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NORTHERN HEMISPHERE SHEET NO. 5

by train 10:00 PM, Arrived Boston 8:00 AM, 28 June. After considerable search thru several naval establishments, finally located and were delivered to the coast guard cutter "Northwind" by motor launch. Vessel located at South Jetty, Boston Naval Drydock shipyard. Were assigned to quarters in a compartment two decks below main deck aft, with accomodations for 21 passengers: 21 three tiered bunks, 9 lockers, 2 showers, 3 basins, 3 toilets, no storage space. Duvall and I first in and thus had pick of bunks and lockers. Bunks furnished with too-soft mattresses and made up with sheets, spreads and pillows. Navy towels furnished and hot and cold fresh water in washroom.

Ship a 269 foot, 5600 ton, all steel ice breaker with three screws (one forward, 2 aft) and helium ballast; commissioned in 1945. Home port, Seattle, Wash. Left that port in April 1946 with instructions to join "Nanook" task force in Boston,

Officers of USCGC Northwind

Capt. R.M. Hoyle	commanding officer
Comdr. P.J. Smenton	Executive officer
Lt. Comdr. C.D. Goodwin	Engineer officer
Lt. E.J. Weinzettle	1st. asst. Eng. off.
Lt. (jg) C.A. Fenske	asst. Eng. off
Lt. (jg) R.B. Moore	Navigator
Ens. R.I. Price	1st. Lieutenant
Ens. R.A. Ratti	gunnery officer
Ens. S.B. Russell	Communications officer
Ens. A.H. Siemens	student Engineer
Ens. R.W. Johnson	Asst. 1st Lieut.

Hanook staff

Capt. R.H. Cruzen USN	- CO
Capt. G.J. Dufek USN	chief of staff
Capt. G.F. Kosco USN	
Capt. C.J. McGREGOR USNR	
Comdr C.M. CAMPBELL USN	air observer
Comdr. J.H. MINI USN	personnel
Comdr. F.A. CHENAULT USN	air
Comdr. R.A. O'NEILL USN	air
Comdr. C.R. BEAMAN USN	supply
Lt. Comdr. J.D. MILLER USN	
Lt. Comdr. J.S. CAMPBELL USN	
Lt. Comdr. R.A. DOWD USNR	pub. relations
Lt. (jg) J.H. McMILLIN USN	photography

proceeded thru Panama Canal and was refitted at Brooklyn Navy Yard. Ships complement, observers from half a dozen agencies, 22 army engineer EM's, and 22 marine EM's will make this small vessel very crowded. With so many divergent projects, crowded quarters, and lack of working space it would seem that not too much could be accomplished by anyone.

A Captain Hoyle, native of North Carolina, is in command of the ship and there are to be 4 other captains, and at least six full commanders on board. The crew is set for an unpleasant cruise with so much brass aboard. In our compartment are army, navy, and marine officers, plus civilians.

We take our meals in the officer's ward where they are served by negro mess boys with utmost formality. Meals are excellent to date: Bacon, eggs, toast, fruit juice and milk and coffee for breakfast; steaks, fried chicken, beaucoup vegetables and desserts for the other meals.

northwind W/O's

Lt. Mach. G.R. Hunter — Asst Eng Off
Lt. Mach. C.L. Fraddle — "
Lt. Pilot Lt. J. Barrow — Asst. Comm Off
Lt. Mach. C'Connor — Asst Eng Off
Lt. Pilot H.W. Pelletier — Supply Off
Dr. F.D. Rogers — Med Off

"Nanook" is supposed to be Eskimo for "polar bear".

RCMP at Dundas Harbor, Devon Island:
Cpl. Hugh Hawluck MacLeod
John Henry Biensch

Mr. Francis of the Navy Bureau of Ships, whom I met on the Norton Sound, told me some interesting things about gyro compasses which I hadn't realized before. Present day gyro's are so constructed that errors in heading are mechanically compensated for up to 70° latitude. Above that there is a slight error, the magnitude of which depends upon the heading, speed, and position of the ship. At the time I was talking to him we were on a heading of 275, making 5 knots and at 74°15' N latitude. The gyro compass error was about .9 of a degree; close enough to suit me but not close enough for a navigator. New compasses now building will be good to 80° latitude.

27 June 1946
Cottundley, J.

A pass has allowed us the utmost freedom to go and come from the navy yard as we pleased, and we have made a thorough exploration of Boston, including a visit to the museum of comparative zoology at Harvard university.

As originally planned the operation "Nanook" was to consist of two phases. Phase one a series of maneuvers in the Baffin sea at the edge of the ice pack and phase two establishment of weather stations at Thule, Greenland and Winter Harbor, Melville Island, Western Canadian arctic. Vessels to participate consist of the mounted Coast Guard cutters "North Wind" ~~and~~ the net tender "White Wood", the seaplane tender "Norton Sound", two AK supply ships "Beltrami" and "Aleona", and a submarine. The "Northwind" is to depart with the submarine ten days ahead of the rest of the task force and "proceed as far north as the safety of the submarine will allow, i.e. to the edge of the

Passenger list for USC&C Northwind
1st phase of Nanook Operation

Maj. V.W. BANNING USMC
Maj. P.B. MAY USMC
~~Capt. V. BOYD USMC~~
Lt. Comdr. T.E. SHEA H(S) USNR (Med. Research)
Capt. DORSEY (AC) AUS (Aerologist)
Lt. Comdr. C.R. DALE USNR (")
Comdr. J.H. SAULT (DC) USN (Dentist)
Lt. Comdr. C.S. TANNER USN (Sen. Aviator)
Lt. Comdr. J.C. HEIDE USNR (Hydrographic Office)
Lt. W.T. THERRELL USNR (")
Lt. J.W. MOREAU USCG (oceanographer)
Mr. D.E. CHARPENTIER (Naval Ord. Lab)
Mr. A. BOWEN (")
Mr. A.J. DUVALL (Dept. of Int)
Mr. C.O. HANDLEY, JR. (")
Lt. CHAMBERS (ARMY ENGINEERS)
Capt. ADAMS (")
W/O MASHBURN (USCG) (Chief photographer)
Capt. R. INGLIS Canadian Army (Directorate of Tactical Investigation)

pack ice. Sailing date was first set for 30 June, then set up to 2 July, and now 0900 5 July. Now (4 July) the jeep has been brought aboard, liberties have been canceled after 2400, and all gear has been stowed so evidently we are to get away as scheduled at 0900 5 July.

Apparently departure has been stalled by negotiations with the canadian government regarding establishment of a permanent weather station at Melville Island. Current plans evidently omit that from the operation, thus leaving our status somewhat in doubt since we had anticipated making considerable zoological and botanical collections on that island.

Current plans for phase two call for us to (northwind) land the marines at Devon Island for 3 weeks of testing cold weather equipment, to accompany the supply ship back to Thule, Greenland and

1 fathom = 6 feet
heave to = stop a ship
landfall = send a party ashore
avast = stop
secure = fix something so you can't use it
gear = equipment
bulkhead = wall
deck = floor
galley = kitchen
ward room = dining and recreation room
hatch = waterproof door
scuttle = round door thru hatch
ladder = stairs
O.D. = officer of the deck
smoking lamp is lit = smoking permitted
smoking lamp is out = no smoking
"Now hear this" = call preceding all announcements
stow = store
lay down = bring
swab = mop
hold = store room
ship's store = PX
Jacob's ladder = rope or steel vertical ladder over ships side
sea ladder = stairs over side of ship
ship = anything bigger than a boat

then proceed via Lancaster Sound to the vicinity of Melville Island. No landing there is mentioned. I suspect that fear of offence to the Soviet similar ~~the~~ to that experienced ~~in~~ the Pacific re Japan prior to 1941 has something to do with hampering the operations. Nevertheless Duvall and I are equipped to make thorough collections of birds, mammals, and plants, should the opportunity present itself.

5 July 1946 Boston, Massachusetts 42°23'N 70°54'W (1200) to lat. 42°435'N, long. 68°42'W (2000).

The lines were cast off, the gang plank was removed, and the northwind blew away from the dock almost on schedule at 0910 this morning, accompanied by much taking of movies by officers of the operation on the jetty. Under her own power from the start, the north wind moved quickly out of the harbor, past the steel loading a/c's, Alcoma and Beltrami, passe

CGC 283

USS Northwind, statistics

10,000 hp. total
motors 360 rpm
6 motors - 3 on each shaft - port starboard

7 motors at may be used for bow propeller

6 motors may be used for stern prop.
each diesel has its own generator

The bow prop. when not locked spins with what is known as "free wheeling", making the ship harder to steer. When locked it slows the ship.

4 engines are used for cruising 11-14 knots

all six engines for max speed 17.6 knots.

Stern propellers are only 11 in. from hull causing (cavitation) - a slapping sound caused by the forcing of water or air by the prop. blade against the hull.

tugs and destroyers and cruisers and carriers to the mouth of the harbor. Here at the edge of the rocky headland to the north and small rocky, lighthouse capped islands to the south, the Northwind came to an abrupt stop about 1000 to allow directional instruments and other equipment to be adjusted and set in working order.

In the harbor herring gulls were abundant, or maybe only common; only about 1/4 were adult, while 1/2 where in the light second year plumage. There were a few ~~[illegible]~~ immature ring-billed gulls with the herrings. Wilson's petrels were common near the mouth of the harbor, as were double-cr. cormorants. A few of the latter were seen flying in the harbor and a few were swimming and diving near the ship; about 25 were perched on a rocky point. Most were in adult plumage tho there were a few white bellied immatures.

About 1225 we proceed rapidly

Beaufort Scale of wind & Sea

Beaufort wind force	wind velocity miles per hour	condition of sea
0 Calm	calm	glassy
1 light air	1-3	rippled in patches
2 light breeze	4-7	rippled all over with miniature waves
3 gentle breeze	8-12	white caps begin to form
4 moderate breeze	13-18	general spotting with whitecaps
5 fresh breeze	19-24	white wave crests everywhere
6 strong breeze	25-31	large waves form and wind streaks
7 moderate gale	32-38	foam whipped in long line
8 fresh gale	39-46	sea rises, foam blown in dense streaks
9 strong gale	47-54	sea heaps & dense foam streaks; everything
10 whole gale	55-63	high waves, overhanging crests, foam in
11 storm	64-75	deep troughs, air filled with foam
12 hurricane	75+	mountainous waves

seaward again and the following notes were made from time to time. The sun was shining brightly but there was considerable haze. There was a stiff chilling breeze that made my "sunfans" feel too cool. The water was calm in the early afternoon but with small white caps toward evening. By night the northwind had not displayed the bad rolling quality ascribed to it.

1300 3 wilsons petrels; 3 herring gulls; 1 domestic pigeon.

1315 10 herring gulls; 24 + wilsons petrels - many resting and walking on water; outside of harbor 9/10 of gulls have been ~~sum~~ adults.

1330 9 herring gulls (1 imm); 4 wilson's petrels; 3 adult great black-backed gulls - perched on floating debris.

1345 21 herring gulls; 2 black backs; 5 petrels

1400 88 herring gulls (mostly on water in a single flock); 6 petrels.

1415 150 + herring gulls (mostly on water in a single flock different from that of 1400); 2 black backs

USS Whitewood AN 63 vital statistics

158 ft. Long
weight 1750 tons
draw 14½ ft
max. speed 12.5 knots
3 Diesels

(ad. & imm); 18 petrels. One small finbacked whale was rolling momentarily at the surface some distance from the ship.

1430 2 herring gulls; 1 petrel

1445 4 herring gulls; 19 petrels

1500 1 herring gull; 1 blackback on floating debris; 26 petrels - 16 in one flock. Out of sight of land.

1515 4 herring gulls (2 ad, 2 imm); 8 petrels.

1530 6 herring gulls; 1 petrel.

1545 passed 3 fishing schooners, one bringing in its nets at the time - around this one were 754 petrels, 8 herring gulls, and 1 parasitic jaeger (adult, light phase) It passed almost across the bow of the northwind and chased a gull for a moment.

1645 1 petrel

1715 nothing

1730 1 petrel

1745 1 petrel, 3 ad. terns (common or forsters) flying southward

1800 16 petrels in wake of ship.

These observations were made from the convenient vantage point of the fore/ack-ack battery on

code names:

Northwind - Bear
~~Atule - Seal~~
Beltrami - whale
whitewood - seal
atule - penguin

the deck above the weather deck, and represent a semi circular sweep across the front of the ship. In the case of the gulls at least, each observation is of different birds and this is probably true also of the petrels. Thus from 1300 to 1800 after we had left the harbor and with a nearly continuous break from 1545 to 1715 I walked and I saw approximately 315 herring gulls, 8 great black-backed gulls, ~~220~~ 210 Wilson's petrels, 1 parasitic jaeger, 3 terns, and 1 domestic pigeon.

6 July 1946 43°11'N 64°58'W (0800); 43°34'N 63°46'W (1200); 44°14'N 61°20'W (2000). Foggy till 1000; clear rest of day. Wind light in fore noon, brisk in afternoon. Water with light swells and small white caps. Several gulls followed ship in AM and a few shearwaters were noted; in PM shearwaters were abundant; petrels a few all day.

0700 1 herring gull
0800 2 herring gulls
0815 nothing

6 July 1946 12
Connally, J.

0830 3 herring gulls; 1 imm. gannet (body + white, wings black, white "V" on rump) following ship.
0845 nothing
0900 5 herring gulls - following ship
0915 8 herring gulls (2, ad and imm of year, came in from port and began following ship)
0930 3 sooty shearwaters flew seaward across the bow a good way out. characteristic shearwater flight noticable even at a distance; 1 Wilsons petrel.
0945 nothing
1000 1 wilson's petrel
1015 1 wilson's petrel
1030 4 wilsons petrels
1045 1 wilsons petrel
1100 6 wilsons petrels
1115 6 wilsons petrels
1130 1 sooty shearwater; 4 wilsons petrels; 1 common tern (imm - black from eye continuous around back of head; 1 fulmar (?) light phase - seen at a great distance.
1145 13 wilsons petrels (11 one flock)
1200 nothing
1300 4 herring gulls
1315 1 wilsons petrel; 1 greater shearwater - far out to port

white with naked eye, brown backed and white bellied with binocular.
1330 1 wilsons petrel; 1 greater shearwater (adult - came close to ship affording good view of white collar ~~with~~ and white "V" rump patch.
1345 3 Wilsons petrels, 1 Leach's Petrel (very brownish with distinct darker band across secondaries

1400 1 Leach's petrel
1415 school of about six dolphins playing about ship's bow and wake for about 5 minutes - dark brown above and light brown below with sharp line of demarcation.

1430 1 sooty shearwater - flying westward
1545 1 herring gull
1600 2 greater shearwaters (lit on water) 3 ~~pet~~ wilsons petrels (noticably blacker than Leach's); 1 Arctic? tern - very gray.
1615 2 greater shearwater - seen very close to the ship, affording fine views. Flap and sail flight, and rise and glide characteristic.

6 July 46
Coxhandley, J.

Very white underparts, dark wings and tail, ~~and~~ white V on rump, and whitish underside of wings noticable at a great distance. Dark black of head with sharp line of demarcation from white of cheeks noticable closer up. White collar also prominent. 2 parasitic jaegers detected at a great distance from the ship; when they came closer identification was easy. They are similar in size to the greater shearwaters but they have a continuous lazy flapping flight (no gliding or very little) and undersurface of the wing is black. At closer range white at base of primaries is conspicuous.
4 wilsons petrels
1630 2 greater shearwaters, 6 wilsons petrels.
1645 2 greater shearwaters, 2 wilsons petrels, 1 herring gull
1700 8 greater shearwaters (2 may well have been cory's - white rump patch not noticable and underparts whitish; 2 sooty shearwaters; 1 herring gull; 1 great black-backed gull (ad); 2 arctic ? terns (very grayish).
1715 Greater shearwaters - 50+ in

three flocks; two starboard, one off the port bow; many circling but as many as eleven in one compact flock on the water.
1745 Greater shearwater 75+ all around the ship, close in as well as far out; 2 wilsons petrels.
1800 Greater shearwater 15; wilsons petrel 2
1815 Greater shearwater 10
1830 Greater shearwater 30 (1 lit on water and 15 others quickly followed suit till all were in a compact raft) Wilsons petrel 3; 4 Dolphins - same kind as seen earlier.
1845 Greater shearwater 5; wilsons petrel 4
1900 Greater shearwater 25 (one flock of 15 on water - they raft in tight groups). Wilsons petrel 3
1915 Greater shearwater 20; wilsons petrel 3
1930 Greater shearwater 5

A composite count of the birds seen today would presumably be less accurate than that of yesterday for the shearwaters appeared to stick with the ship more. Relative abundance is well illustrated however.

6 Jul 46
C. Handley, Q

Wilson's petrel	73
Leach's petrel	3
greater shearwater	253
sooty shearwater	7
gannet	1
herring gull	22
great black backed gull	1
fulmar (?)	1
arctic (?) tern	34
~~common tern~~	~~1~~
parasitic jaeger	2
corys shearwater (?)	2

We have been making 14.5 knots ~~per hour~~ today and have been off Nova Scotia (about 50 mi.) all day. We are travelling further out than most coast wise boats and passed but one — a fishing schooner today. The captain said we might expect to see ice bergs tomorrow night or the next morning if not we probably wouldn't see any till 68° lat. We passed off Cape Sable Nova Scotia early this morning and at 2000 tonight were in the vicinity of Sable Island. Wind 15 knots from East, temp. 63° max., 50 min.

7 July
Cortandley, D

7 July 1946 (0800 45°15'N, 57°38'W; 14 knots; 1200 45°34'N, 56°23'W; 11.5 knots; 2000 46°05'N, 54°18'W 16.5 k.

It rained much last night and this morning the sea was somewhat rougher than before but still not uncomfortable. Sky was overcast and there was a brisk wind. It rained much of the day and fog closed in towards evening. Wind strong and water rough at midday, calmer in evening. Growing noticably colder. Several soldiers and sailors were seasick. Temp. max. 58°, min. 45°, wind average 20 knots. We were on the fishing banks off Nova Scotia and the gulf of St. Lawrence but birds were relatively scarce. We passed no fishing boats. A few Leachs petrels were almost always in sight and every few minutes we passed flocks of greater shearwaters with a few sooties mixed in. They often wheeled near the ship. Two fulmars were seen — no gulls. The following notes were made. Many persons on the ship have become interested in birds and several have learned to distinguish the common kinds.

7 July 46
C H Handley Jr

0800 Leaches petrel 4; Greater Shearwater 5; unidentified shearwater - large and dark showing diffused rump patch and dark breast - only belly and underparts & wings white (Corya's shearwater)
0815 1 sooty shearwater; 4 lea. pet.
0830 1 lea pet
0845 1 gr. shear.; 1 soot. shear; 3 lea pet
0900 1 gr. shear; 1 lea pet
0915 12 gr. shear; 3 soot shear; 2 lea pet
fulmar 1 (light phase)
0930 40 gr. shear (one flock); 5 soot. shear, 2 lea pet.
0945 20 gr. shear; 5 soot shear; 12 lea. pet.; 1 fulmar (light); dolphin 3 reported.
1000 2 gr. shear; 4 lea. pet.
1015 50 gr. shear; 1 soot shear; 5 lea pet
1030 2 lea pet
1045 2 soot shear.
1100 20 gr. shear; 1 lea pet
1115 3 lea. pet.
1130 3 lea. pet.; 3 gre shear.
1145 3 soot shear; 3 gr. shear; 4 lea pet
1200 1 fulmar (light) following ship close up; lea pet 2; 2 gr. shear.
1300 3 gr. shear; 4 lea pet.
1315 10 gr. shear; 12 lea pet
1330 8 gr. shear; 15 lea pet
1345 30 gr. shear; 2 soot shear; 10 lea pet

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C. Handley, Jr.

1400 20 gr. shear; 1 soot. shear; 15 lea pet
1415 15 gr. shear; 2 soot. shear; 4 lea pet
1430 1 gr. shear; 2 lea pet
1445 1 lea. pet.
1500 10 gr. shearwater; 5 lea pet
1515 25 gr. shear.; 1 soot shear; 10 lea pet
1530 5 lea pet
1545 10 gr. shear; 3 lea pet
1600 25 gr shear; 5 lea pet
1615 3 lea pet.
1630 nothing
1645 10 gr. shear; 5 lea pet
1700 3 lea pet.
1830 2 gr. shear; 1 soot shear; 2 lea pet

Total for day:

Leaches petrel	161
sooty shearwater	30
greater shearwater	345
Cory's shearwater (?)	1
fulmar	3

11.5 knots 0800 47°31'N, 52°21'W; 1200 48°11'N, 51°59'W; 2000 49°33'N, 57°12'W

8 July 1946

We turned Cape Race at 0207 last night and passed St. Johns, Newfoundland at 0800 and are now on a course of 0.020° or almost due north, heading for the southern tip of Greenland and a meeting with the other ships on 11 July. Early in the morning we were within sighting distance

8 July 1946
C.O. Handley, Jr.

of land - only 10 miles off the coast of Newfoundland - but we were enveloped in fog, with the visibility only about 75 yards. The wind was not strong and the water was relatively calm - not even any whitecaps. In the afternoon the sea became much rougher, with big swells, white caps and a strong wind - the first really rough water. The ship rolled 20° and pitched 4°. A lot of people were sea sick and I didn't feel so good myself. Radar detected the first ice berge of the trip 3 mi. off the starboard beam at 4:15 PM. Max. temp. 50°; wind 25 Knots.

Petrels were the bird of the hour - almost constantly in sight; other kinds were definitely scarce - greater and sooty shearwaters and fulmars. While still near Newfoundland we saw several puffins and murres and one murre 60 miles at sea. The following notes were made.

0845 2 sea pet
0900 3 sea pet; 1 fulmar (light) - came very close to ship; short bill, dark eye, and large head make it very dove-like - tail white at base of

8 July 1946
C. H. Handley, Jr.

primaries not shown in field guides. (later observation - nearly all this show)
0915 15 lea pet
0930 25 lea pet (15 one flock)
0945 9 lea pet - brown coloration and light patches on wings good field marks - forked tail not noticable except at very close range and flight not noticably different from wilson's - not to me at least.
1000 10 lea pet
1015 9 lea pet; 1 puffin (appeared solid black - flying rapidly landward)
1030 10 Lea pet; 12 gr. shear.; 1 puffin ad. with red bill floating on water near ship; appeared much smaller than I had imagined it would be.
1045 7 lea pet
1100 2 atlantic murres (1 flew landward across bow and one on water near ship - dived as ship passed); 1 puffin (flew back and forth across bow several times - flying away appears all black - side view, bill and white belly conspicuous).
Lea. pet. 4
1115 10 Lea pet
1130 3 lea pet
1145. 2 lea pet

22

8 July 1946
Cottanbley, J.

1200 nothing
1300 3 gr. shear.; 3 lea pet
1315 1 pet
1330 3 gr. shear; 3 lea pet
1345 3 lea pet; 1 gr. shear; 1 dolphin - not seen well enough to describe
1400 3 lea pet
1415 2 gr. shear; 3 lea pet
1430 2 lea pet
1445 1 lea pet
1500 5 lea pet
1515 2 gr. shear; 5 pet
1530 1 Atlantic murre - on water. dived as ship passed - 60 mi. from land; 1 sooty shearwater. 5 lea pet
1545 10 lea pet
1600 5 lea pet
1615 2 lea pet; radar spotted an iceberg 3mi off starboard beam
1630 1 lea pet; 1 soot. shear.
1645 1 fulmar (light). 5 lea pet.
1700 10 lea pet; 2 gr. shear.

Totals for day: these totals do not give a true account of the numbers of individuals observed but they do show the number of observations and thus a true picture of the conspicuousness of the various birds. The fifteen minute observations represent in some cases a count of the birds of the 15 min. period,

8 July 1946
C. H. Hundley, Jr.

in other, an estimate.

Leach's petrel	176
greater shearwater	25
sooty shearwater	2
fulmar	2
Atlantic Murre	3
Puffin	3
dolphin	1

From point of individuals this has been the poorest bird day of the trip, and because of the sea, the most unenjoyable.

9 July 1946 (0800, 51°40'N, 50°54'W; 1200 52°20'N 50°55'W; 2000 53°-50'N, 50°57'W) course 000° speed 11.5 knots

Last night at 2300 we changed course to 0000 - due north. We have kept up a steady speed of 11.5 knots (ship has a potential speed of 23 knots but vibration from the generators is bad even at 14). There are 60 knots or nautical miles in a degree of latitude. Degrees of latitude and degrees of longitude are nearly equal only at the equator.

The sea was calm and smooth this morning - cold blue as tho there were snow in the water - very beautiful in the sunlight. It was alternately clear and foggy all day, the sun

9 July 46
Lt Col Handley J.

shining brightly off the starboard and port beams at times. After 1000 the sea became choppy and with small swells but the ship rolled hardly at all all day. It was cold enough despite the calm, so that hands got cold at times in GI gloves. Breath was frosty. Max. Temp. 47°, min. Temp. 45°, wind 8 knots.

Today has been the best bird day to date and the most pleasant. Capt. Hoyle remarked that he didn't understand its being so calm. He is a veteran of arctic voyaging. Fulmars were the birds of the hour, being always in sight. Their shining white breasts showed a long distance in the sunlight, and they could always be seen dotted all over the water for miles around the ship. They seemed reluctant to fly when the ship approached them and they often only fluttered just out of the way of the bow wake and settled back on the water again. Greater shearwaters showed this characteristic too. Birds are much tamer here than further south. Several

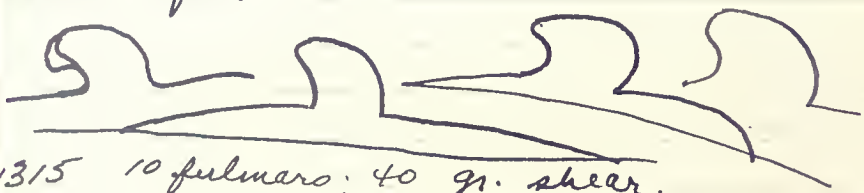
9 July 46 ~~9 Jr~~
COZ Handley, J.

fulmars flew within a few feet of me. Today more birds were seen on the water than in the air. Several times more than a hundred greater shearwaters were seen in a single raft.

0800 4 fulmars (1 dark phase)
0815 1 fulmar; 1 large whale reported?
0830 1 gr. shear; 4 fulmars (1 dark)
0845 100 gr. shear (mostly in one large flock on water); 10 fulmars; 2 lea pet
0900 1 Kittiwake (imm); 150 gr. shear. (on water); 25 fulmars.
0915 100 gr. shear (mostly on water-one flock of 50); 1 lea pet; 50 fulmars; 2 Kittiwakes.
0930 200 gr. shearwaters; 25 fulmars, 1 petrel
0945 75 gr. shear; 50 fulmars; 1 lea pet.
1000 25 gr. shear; 30 fulmars; 2 lea pet
1015 10 gr. shear. 20 fulmars; an iceberg reported off the starboard beam turned out to be a cargo vessel.
1115 60 fulmars (49 on water around ship) 10 gr. shear; ~~1 lea pet.~~
1130 25 fulmars; 12 gr. shear; 1 lea pet
1145 16 fulmars; 16 gr. shear; 16 <u>northern phalaropes</u> (5 ad., 11 imm.); swimming on water in compact flock, flew when boat came near - showed conspicuous white strip in wing - imm. very brown

9 July 46
C. Handley, Jr.

in contrast to light adults.
1200 71 gr. shear; 15 fulmars; 2 lea. pet.
1300 200 fulmars in a compact group on water directly in course of ship, apparently feeding on a school of fish; 20 gr. shear; 15 blackfish at the same spot boiling the surface - seen at very close range - solid black, big dorsal fin



1315 10 fulmars; 40 gr. shear.
1330 2 fulmars
1345 15 fulmars; 8 gr. shear.
1400 8 fulmars; 1 gr. shear.
1415 2 fulmars, 2 gr. shear.
1430 2 Atlantic murres on water near ship - dived as we passed - all we have seen dived as the ship passed; 14 fulmars, 17 gr. shear.
1445 75 fulmars; 20 gr. shear; 2 lea pet
1500 5 fulmars; 5 gr. shear; 3 lea pet.
1515 1 lea. pet.; 25 fulmar; 5 gr. shear.
1530 1 lea pet; 10 fulmar, 5 gr. shear
1545 20 fulmars; 1 gr. shear;
1600 10 fulmar; 5 gr. shear; 3 lea pet.
1615 29 fulmars; 10 gr. shear; 2 lea pet.
1630 3 Red phalaropes (2♀, 1♂) flew across bow, lit nearby and then flew high into the air and out of sight to the east.

9 July 46
c/o Hukaby, J.

Red breasts and white wing stripes conspicuous; flight was characteristically sandpiper. Fulmar - holding binocular stationary on a line off the starboard beam I counted 100 fulmars on water far out from ship in a 3 min. period - the glistning white breasts show up for great distance in the sunlight. They have been about the ship in equal numbers all day - we must have passed at least 10,000 in the course of the day. (1100 actually counted) The white phase outnumbers the gray probably 10-1; gr. shear. 10; 1 pet.

1645 Fulmar - holding binoculars stationary counted 50 in a 3 min. period; 2 gr. shear; 1 lea. pet.

1700 - 13 red phalaropes - flushed by ship, flew high into air and straight away to east. predominately bright females. Kittiwake 1 imm. flew across bow of ship; 3 gr. shear; 200 fulmar.

Totals:

Leaches petrel	24	Kittiwake	4
greater shearwater	890		
fulmar	1,100	large whale	1
atlantic murre	2	black fish	15
red phalarope	16		
northern phalarope	16		

10 July 1946
CO Handley. R.

course 0325°

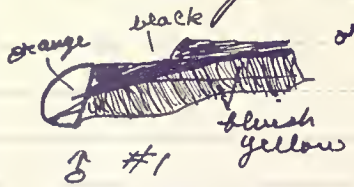
10 July 1946 [0200 56° 06'N, 50°43.5'W; 1200 56°52'N, 50°51'W; 2000 58°13'N, 51°05'W; course changed to 358 at 0900

During the morning we experienced alternate periods of fog and sunshine. The wind velocity increased steadily and in the afternoon the clouds closed in and it rained the rest of the day. The water was somewhat rougher than yesterday but we were heading directly into the swells all day so the ship pitched considerably but ~~did not~~ rolled hardly at all. It was chilling cold and I was glad that I had a wool lined parka - issued by the coast guard. My hands got cold even tho I had GI gloves on. Max. temp 45°, min. 40°; wind 20 knots. This afternoon at 1400 the executive officer of the ship threw a box over the starboard bow and yelled "man overboard", signalling boat drill and rescue practice. The ship turned about in a short circle and after some confusion a boat was lowered and the box was "rescued". The crew was green (many of the crew are apprentice seamen fresh out of boot camp and on their first cruise. At least four

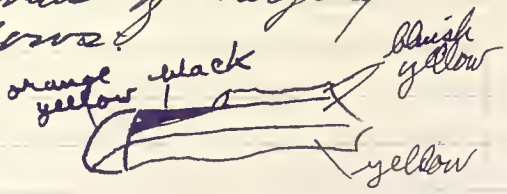
of the junior officers are recent graduates of the Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn. and also on their first cruise.) and this was quite an ordeal for them. It had taken an hour before the bolt was finally secured again. In the meantime Mr. Washburn, the Coast Guard photographer, took numerous photographs of the northwind from the lifeboat and rescued four fulmars which Duvall had shot from the stern. Duvall has turned cameraman the last couple of days, using equipment borrowed from Washburn. The fulmars on board caused quite a sensation. Everybody wanted to know what they were, were they good to eat, what were we going to do with them, could a person get into the National Museum free? Several were determined to go to the museum to see the specimens they saw collected, "which they helped secure". It was hard to explain that a fulmar was neither a gull nor a duck. If it wasn't a gull or a duck,

10 July 1946
C. O. Handley, Jr.

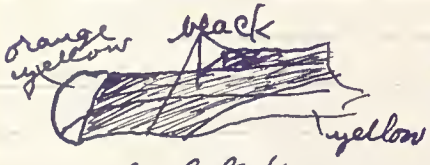
then what was it? For lack of a better place, we had to skin the specimens on the open deck and had a sizable audience until it began to rain. Then in the 40° chill, we finished the job in solitude. The ~~specimens~~ skins were salted down to be stuffed later. The following notes were made on the soft parts. Eyes dark brown; feet and legs pale bluish gray; bills of varying colors as follows:



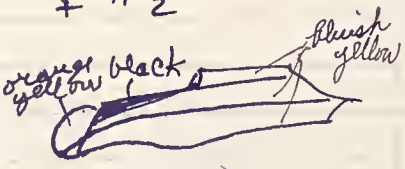
♂ #1



♀ #2



head dark
♀ #3 (immat.)(?)



♂ #4

All in all it was a poor day for birds and nothing of especial interest was noted. The following observations were made.

0900 3 fulmars
0915 1 fulmar; 1 sea pet.
0930 6 fulmars; 1 sea pet; 1 gr. shear
0945 5 fulmars; 1 sea pet;
1000 3 fulmars

10 July 1946
C. Handley. J.

1015 8 fulmars, 1 gr. shear
1030 4 fulmars
1045 5 fulmars, 2 lea pet., 1 atlantic murre (flew westward across bow)
1100 4 fulmars, 1 gr. shear
1115 6 fulmars
1130 4 fulmars
1145 5 fulmars
1200 10 fulmars, 1 kittiwake (imm.).
1300 5 fulmars.
1315-1600 - 35 fulmars

Totals for day:

		obs.
leaches petrel	6	(.2)
greater shearwater	3	(.3)
fulmar	104	(.5)
atlantic murre	1	
kittiwake	1	

course to 0800 = 002, after 0800 = 319 (285-352)

11 July 1946 (0800 60°25'N, 50°47'W; 1200 61°03'N, 51°06'W; 2000 61°58'N, 52°42'W) (11.5K to 1100, 10.5K 11-1300, 9K 13-1600, 8.8K 16-2400)

Today was a big day, not from the standpoint of birdlife, but from other diversions. We rendezvoused with the submarine and whitewood as scheduled and saw the first ice. The visibility was unlimited and the sun shone brightly all day. The sea was considerably rougher than yesterday and the waves were all white-capped - like bright tufts of cotton on the blue water. Swells were large

temp. max. 42°, min. 36°, wind 25 knots

11 July 1946
CO Handley, J.

and the ship was pitching badly - worse than ever before, but it was rolling hardly any. The wind was wicked, whipping spray across the ship all day. The submarine, Otule, was sighted dead ahead at 1015, and the white gray paint, the color of all of the ships of this operation made it hard to see at a distance. It fell in behind the northwind at 1045. The sea broke clear over it every time it dipped into a swell yet there was a man completely exposed on either side of the conning tower. They were ice lookouts I suppose. They as well as all the crew of the sub were really getting a rough ride. At 1130 the net tender, Whitewood, was sighted dead ahead and it fell into line behind the submarine at exactly 1200, the preappointed hour for the rendezvous. With two ships behind us the ocean doesn't seem nearly as large or as lonely as it did. The rendezvous was to be at the edge of the west Greenland current, about 60 mi. off the coast of Greenland, and it was easily discerned by its ice floes. Soon after 1000, just before

the sub was sighted, the glistening white of an ice floe was spotted on the horizon off the starboard bow. From a distance it appeared to be a flat continuous body, but closer up it showed to be a jumbled mass of grotesquely carved chunks of ice. By 1115 we were in the floe and passing big chunks of ice on all sides. The reflection of the water gave the ice cakes a beautiful pastel blue tint, sometimes apparent from a great distance, but in ~~many~~ most lights and from most angles they were snow white. The ice cakes varied in size from ice cube size to 10 room house size and were all shapes. Some were smooth and rounded and rose and sank in the swells like giant beasts raising their shoulders above the water, while others were rough and jagged and full of holes and caves. Frequently you would see one of these ragged chunks split apart by the waves into several pieces. This is floe ice, broken from the ice ~~pack~~ east of Greenland and carried around the southern tip and northward by the current.

11 July 1946
C.O. Hundley, Jr.

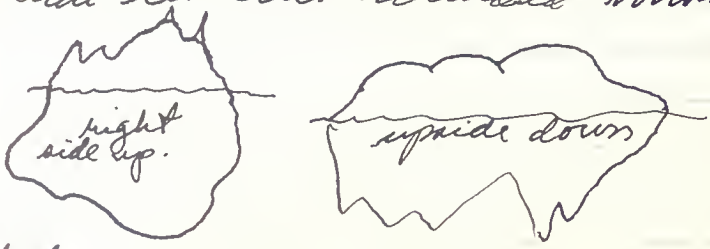
"floe" is a disconnected mass of ice, visibly surrounded by water; a "pack" is a mass of ice not visibly surrounded by water, it is more or less permanent ice. A few ice bergs loomed on the horizon and I watched one come nearer in the radar scope. They are huge blocks of ice, some seemingly square or regular in outline, others peaked and jagged, and some viewed on end appear knife edged.

We passed thru the northern tip of the floe and shouldn't see more than scattered ice from now until we are well up into Baffin bay. The distribution of the ice is governed by the currents which are spectacular at this latitude. There is an amazing and remarkably well defined temperature variation between a current and the water outside it, a variation which in many cases can be measured in the length of a ship. The navigator, Mr. Moore, says we are 360 miles from the arctic circle tonight and at our reduced rate of speed

should reach it in a day and a half or two days. Check Coast Guard Bulletin 19, pt. 3, 1928 for good description of ice and icebergs. Greenland is the world's largest producer of icebergs, actually being the only place outside the antarctic where icebergs are important. There are no berg producing glaciers on the west coast south of Disko Bay which is the world's largest producer of pinnacle bergs (1160 per year). A place further north just south of Thule is the most important producer of flat topped bergs. The "bergs" we saw today probably weren't bergs at all but rather chunks built up by the shelving of pack ice. True icebergs are the products of glaciers and "calving" of them gives fragments called "growlers". Icebergs are the product of fresh water, while "floe bergs" are salt water products. True ice bergs or growlers have an inherent blue color and often are striated with dirt. Some of the blue I noted today may have been water reflection or it may have been inherent. Commander Saulo

11 July 1946
C. Bradley, Jr.

who gave me all this information says that glaciers he has flown over have been characteristically blue. The rounded ice chunks I noted were ones that had turned over, putting their jagged portion down and the current rounded bottom up.



Flat topped bergs have a much smaller portion submerged than the pinnicle bergs which may have 1-11. As far as birds were concerned today there were several noticable changes. There were no petrels or shearwaters, there were more kittiwakes and murres, and the fulmar population was about the same as the day before. Incidentally in skinning the fulmars yesterday I noticed several things of interest. The breast feathers were thick and well interlocked, or intermatted, and under this was a layer of very dense gray down 1/2 or 3/4 inch thick; besides this insulation there was a thick layer of fat.

11 July 1946
C. B. Hundley Jr.

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no wonder they negotiate these cold waters with impunity.
The following notes were made for 11 July:
0900 5 fulmars; 1 murre reported
0915 4 fulmars
0930 3 fulmars
0945 4 fulmars
1000 1 atlantic murre (flew westward across bow); 5 fulmars.
1015 ice floes sighted off starboard bow and the submarine sighted dead ahead.
1045 passed the sub and it fell in behind us.
1115 in the ice
1130 sighted the net tender, whitewood, dead ahead, several large bergs; 1 im. Kittiwake.
1200 whitewood fell in line behind us; 3 murres flew across and lit near boat - had excellent view.
1300 3 murres, 1 red phalarope ?
1330 2 murres; between 1300 and 1500 3 or 4 fulmars always in sight sometimes flocks of 5-10 on water.
1400 2 murres
1500 nothing
1515 7 fulmars, 3 murres

11 July 46
E O Handley, Jr.

1530 2 fulmars; last flow ice
1545 2 murres, 2 fulmars
1600 2 murres, 2 fulmars
1630 3 fulmars
1645 10 fulmars; 3 murres
1700 15 kittiwakes (1, 9, 5) - several adults. 5 fullmars; 3 murres.
2100 Washburn reported a seal seen at close range. one of the visitors reported a large whale spouting.

Totals:

fulmar	200	3 whales (reported)
atlantic murre	25	1 seal (reported)
kittiwake	16	
red phalarope	1	

murres became a common sight; usually winging along parallel to the ship, but frequently seen on the water. Several persons remarked about their rapid duck-like flight as contrasted to the slow easy gliding flight of the fulmar.

course 319-359 to 1700 then 000

12 July 1946. (0800 63°22.5'N, 54°36.5'W; 1200 63°40'N, 55°05'W; 2000 64°41'N, 54°56'W.) 8.8 knots

The sky was cloudy in the early morning and the sea was relatively calm, with swells but no white caps. About noon we passed thru several fog banks but during the PM it was clear and the visibility was unlimited. By evening the

sea was white capped and the swells were larger, but as for the past several days we were heading directly into them and thus pitching but not rolling. The wind was about 20 knots and cold. We passed thru scattered floes ice all day. We are supposed to cross the arctic circle sometime tomorrow morning, probably about 0400. The sun sets tonight at 10 PM and rises in the morning at 1:30 - giving three and a half hours without the sun, but no total darkness. When I turned in at 11 last night it was light enough to spot ice bergs 4 or 5 miles away. Temp.: max. 42° min. 37°. Fulmars were again the most conspicuous and abundant bird, being almost always in sight. None were observed on the water today, whereas on some days almost all have been on the water. Most were flying southward with the wind whereas most kittiwakes were flying ~~north~~ against the wind. Yesterday and today ~~the~~ we've seen many dark brown fulmars, evidently young of the year. Further south where we saw fulmars by the thousand, all

12 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

were apparently adults. Kittiwakes were more in evidence than before and a flock of 75 or more small gulls, probably kittiwakes, were observed resting on a chunk of ice. The following observations were made.

0900 9 kittiwakes (ad.)
0930 2 fulmars
0945 1 kittiwake (ad), 1 fulmar
1000 3 fulmars
1015 1 kittiwake, 2 fulmars
1030 3 kittiwakes; 75 small gulls on a block of ice too far out for identification probably kittiwakes; 2 fulmars
1045 4 fulmars
1100 2 fulmars
1115 4 fulmars
1130 5 fulmars, 1 kittiwake
1300 3 fulmars
1315 3 fulmars
1330 7 fulmars
1345 3 kittiwakes, 3 fulmars
1430 20 kittiwakes (many adults), 10 fulmars, 1 atlantic murre
1530 2 dovekies - flew across bow
1545 1 kittiwake, 1 fulmar
1600 11 kittiwakes, 3 fulmars
1615 11 fulmars
1630 2 kittiwakes, 13 fulmars
1645 7 fulmars, 1 murre

12 July 1946
D. Hundley, J

1830 12 Kittiwakes, 10 fulmars
1915 11 fulmars
1930 36 fulmars, 1 Kittiwake (ad)
1 ♂ red phalarope flew rapidly eastward across bow.
1945 23 fulmars, 5 Kittiwakes
2000 28 fulmars, 3 Kittiwakes

Totals:

Fulmar	201
Kittiwake	83
Atlantic Murre	2
Dovekie	2
red phalarope	1

course to 0900 - 000; to 2400 - 350

13 July 1946 (0800 66°12.2'N, 54°53'W; 1200 66°26'N, 55°09'W; 2000 66°57'N, 55°23'W) 7.8K to 0600, 5-6K to 2000, 7-8.8K to 2400

We wallowed in Davis Strait all day long in a sea as rough as any we have yet encountered and facing into a 35 knot wind which increased at times to 40 knots. Swells were 10 to 20 feet deep and whitecaps and spray were prevalent. The ship pitched much. The Whitewood radioed that it was having trouble keeping up at 7.5 knots and to prove it began to lag behind. With much misgiving our own speed was thus reduced to 5 knots and then 4.5. It'll take days and days to reach Thule at this rate. The coast of

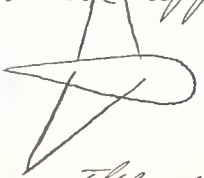
13 July 1946
C. Handley Jr.

Greenland, 47 miles away was sighted at 2300 last night. The height of the coastal mountains, 5000 feet, explains the visibility at such a great distance, ships and icebergs are visible only less than 10 miles. For a few hours this morning, about the time we were crossing the arctic circle, the clouds and fog lifted enough to give us a beautiful view of the jagged and pinnicled Greenland coast. It is said to be the most rugged coast in the world, even exceeding the coasts of Iceland and Norway in that respect. The mountains appeared black and precipitous and devoid of vegetation and all the south slopes were covered with snow banks. Here low places the glistening white of the ice cap or glaciers showed up. An illustration of the great distance from which we viewed this coast was provided by a large three masted schooner which when first observed was only 5 miles off our starboard beam. As it turned eastward toward the coast it went clear out of sight below the horizon, and was undoubtedly still miles at sea. It was the first alien vessel we have sighted in

days. It was announced at 1006 over the PA system that ~~were~~ we were then crossing the arctic circle, but I couldn't see a thing unusual. Later I found that our position had been erroneously determined and that we actually crossed the circle around noon. No ice was sighted today and no more should be until we reach the latitude of Disko Bay, 120 mi. north. The East Greenland current brings flow ice and bergs around the southern tip of Greenland from the East coast glaciers but this ice melts out before it reaches Davis Strait. The current continues northward along the west coast and picks up the great ice flows from Disco Bay, Melville Bay and Humbot Bay and meeting the arctic currents, turns southward along the east coast of Baffin Land and Labrador, making them cold and icebound. Kittiwakes were again in evidence today and were almost all flying eastward toward land. Commander Ault suggested that this might be an indication of the approach of a storm which has been predicted

13 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

for several days. The fulmars were flying just the same, except that in the strong wind it seemed as tho they sailed much more than they did further south. I have noticed that they have a distinct bull headed appearance in gliding.



The only new birds seen were jaegers, one in the dark phase with only the yellow cheek patch to break the solid brown, and the other solid brown all over. Both seemed to have white at the base of the primaries. I haven't seen extended central tail feathers on any of the jaegers I've observed this trip and since the parasitic has the shortest and most inconspicuous projections, I've assumed that all were of that species. I suspect that this mark is no more conspicuous, except at short range, than the square and forked tails of the petrels which I found very difficult to distinguish, except at at very short range. I never did observe the trailing feet of the Wilson's petrel. The sun sank into the sea last night in a clear sky at 10:06 PM.

13 July 1946
Cortlandley, J.

Max. temp. 13 July: 42°; min. 38°. The following observations were made.

0830 3 fulmars
0845 no birds; passed 3 masted schooner 5 mi. to starboard.
0900 nothing
0915 2 dovekies, 3 murres, 1 kittiwake, 7 fulmars.
0930 6 fulmars, 2 murres.
0945 2 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes
1000 no birds; coast of Greenland plainly visible.
1015 1 fulmar
1030 nothing
1045 1 kittiwake, 1 murre
1100 2 fulmars, 1 kittiwake, 1 murre
1115 8 kittiwakes (mostly ad.)
1330 8 fulmars, 1 kittiwake
1430 5 fulmars, 1 kittiwake ad
1445 5 fulmars, 4 kittiwakes
1500 10 fulmars, 17 kittiwakes
1515 10 fulmars, 13 kittiwakes, 2 murres (flying east). 1 parasitic jaeger (dark phase).
1530 6 fulmars, 9 kittiwakes (dark ad over - imm. parasitic jaeger!)
1545 6 fulmars, 12 kittiwakes, 1 murre (observed fairly closely on the water. appeared bright chocolate brown above and snow white below. This brown shows up even at long distances in flight.

13 July 1946
C O Handley, Jr.

In flight the murre appears very chunky and short necked and has rapid duck-like flight, resembling in form and flight the bufflehead. This one I saw closely seemed to be dipping something from the surface of the water, sticking only its bill under, and seldom its whole head.

Total:

Fulmar	75
Parasitic jaeger	2
Kittiwake	70
Dovekie	2
Atlantic Murre	8

course 350

14 July 1946 (0800 68°39'N, 56°11'W; 1200 69°15'N, 56°28'W; 2000 70°20'N, 57°12'W) 8-10K stopped 1330-1430

The sea was calm today with only small swells and no white caps. Towards evening it was almost placid, with only gentle swells to wrinkle the surface. Winds were 15 knots. It was overcast all day and it rained or drizzled much of the time but visibility was always good. In the late afternoon the coastal haze cleared enough to make the coastal mountains of Greenland visible from 43 nautical miles at sea. At this point (Disko Island) the mountains appeared to be precipitous but not nearly as

broken or jagged as further south. Snowbanks and glaciers seemed to spill thru all the low places like white waterfalls. The famous Disko Bay icebergs began to appear North of lat. 67° and by mid-day they had become a common sight on all sides of the ship. At one time 36 were visible to the eye and 49 showed up on the radar scope within a radius of ten miles. They were of all sorts, some jagged, some flat; one seemed larger than a city block. They were all conspicuously bluish even at the furthest point of visibility. Several dirty ones were seen, evidently from the bottoms of glaciers and some were prominently striated with dirt. The blue color and presence of debree are sure signs of true icebergs. One thing I learned about ~~icebergs~~ ice that I didn't know is that fresh water ice is always slick at least in spots and often has considerable snow free areas. Sea ice, on the other hand, because of the salt is not slick and is usually not snow free. Some

14 July 1946
C/O Handley, Jr.

shots from a 75 mm. gun were fired at an iceberg this afternoon, but did little apparent damage. They made a puff of white ice powder where they hit but didn't crack or shatter the berg apparently. Max. Temp. was 41°, min. 37°. Birds were neither varied nor numerous. On two occasions large flocks of birds thought to be murres were noted on icebergs, but were too far away for certain identification. Following the landward movement of kittiwakes yesterday, none were seen until noon today. I believe the kittiwake is the most easily identified American gull, in any plumage. In the adult the black tipped wings are conspicuous almost as far as the bird can surely be distinguished as a gull. This black tipping without mirrors is evident from both above and below. The wing pattern of the immature is quite different from that of any other eastern gull and can also be spotted at considerable distances, tho not as far as the black tipping of the wing of the adult. I saw one adult today closely enough to distinguish the bright yellow bill and black legs. I had a good look at a pair

14 July 1998
C. Handley, Jr.

of dovekies passing the ship. At first glance they are almost perfect miniatures of murres except that the brown is replaced with black. Both body form and manner of flight are the same. The first truly land-based birds we have seen for days were two ruddy turnstones, both bright males. Seen at fifteen minute intervals, one merely passed the ship, while the other ~~circ~~ circled it several times, calling all the while. Both flew away northward. A stilt reported last night was probably also of this species. The following notes were made during the day:

0100 Duvall saw a large dark bird, larger than a fulmar which was probably a jaeger.

0845 1 fulmar, 1 murre, 1 razor-billed auk - flew up from bow of ship - sharp black and white coloration evident as well as widespread extended feet in takeoff (we've noted that murres also show this characteristic in landing, taking off, and often in banking).

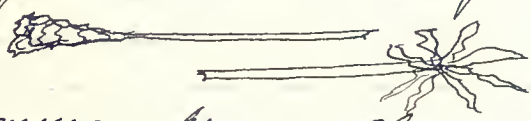
0900 6 fulmars, 2 murres

14 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

0915 18 ruddy turnstone - put on nice display, flew westward across bow, then straight back toward portside, and then parallel to the ship and only a few yards out. Later another flew several times around the ship - calling. Mr. Price saw one of these from the bridge and correctly identified it as a turnstone. Earlier in the morning Mr. Russel saw a flock of blackish birds, possibly murres, perched on an iceberg.
fulmar 5, murre 2
0930 8 fulmars
0945 5 fulmars; 14 icebergs in sight
1000 4 fulmars; 3 dovekies flew north, parallel to ship; 17 icebergs in sight.
1015 3 fulmars, 1 dovekie
1030 2 fulmars
1045 3 fulmars
1100 2 fulmars
1115 1 fulmar
1130 nothing
1145 3 fulmars
1200 9 fulmars, 1 kittiwake (im.), 2 murres
1315 7 fulmars, 1 murre
1330 1 parasitic jaeger (light phase - white collar, white belly)
1345 1 fulmar, 1 kittiwake (ad), 1 murre
1400 kittiwake - flock of 50

14 July 1946
C B Hadley, Jr.

1415 1 fulmar, Kittiwake 11 (2 flocks, 4+7, mostly imm.). Some very luminous, bright, topaz colored, spherical or oval, moving objects just under the surface - coelenterates of some kind? Yesterday and today we have passed considerable ropelike sea weed - kelp?



Common brown algae has (fucus) been common ever since we passed Cape Farewell, especially in Davis Strait.

1500 3 fulmars

1515 3 fulmars; 1 Kittiwake (ad.); 3 murres (2 that I saw closely, I thought had white line on bill as in Brunnich's murre)

1530 8 fulmars

1545 2 fulmars, 3 murres

1600 8 fulmars, 1 Kittiwake (imm.); 1 murre

1615 36 icebergs in sight, 49 on radar scope; exactly opposite Disko Island, 43 nautical miles out. 3 fulmars

1630 1 fulmar

1645 8 fulmars, 5 Kittiwakes, 1 murre

1700 3 fulmars, 4 Kittiwakes

1715 3 fulmars, 5 murres (200 birds resting on an iceberg probably murres)

14 July 1946
C. A. Hundley, Jr.

Coast of Greenland plainly visible 50 estimate miles distant.

1800 nothing

1815 8 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes, 1 murre, 2 dovekies (one flew very close to ship). I saw a bird wing floating on the water - could have been fulmar.

1830 3 fulmars, 1 kittiwake (im.) resting on water - the first I have seen on water. Another interesting note is that I haven't seen a fulmar on the water for several days. For a day or two they were all on the water. Up here the dark phase is infrequent but all seem to be dull and in molt. At a distance and in dull light they appear to be dark winged and tailed birds with bright white heads.

1845 8 fulmars, 2 murres

1900 5 fulmars.

2200 25 murres flew landward across bow. 6 fulmars

Totals:

Fulmars	125
Kittiwake	80
Parasitic jaeger	2
Atlantic murre	48
Brunnich's murre	2
Dovekie	6
Ruddy turnstone	2
razor-billed auk	1
King eider	17

14 July 1946
CO Handley. J.

Today being my birthday, it was rather appropriate that we had turkey and ice cream and cake for dinner, but at supper I was quite unprepared for the surprise I got. The mess boys brought in a beautiful chocolate iced cake with fancy trimmings and "Happy Birthday July 14, 1946" inscribed on it in white icing. Al had arranged for that. Then all the fellows sang "Happy birthday". I cut the cake into 16 pieces so large that they just about floored everyone. It was still warm and delicious. For once I think everyone got his fill of cake. On another thought - the ships have been travelling about two miles abreast today rather than in a straight line, so that two sets of soundings could be taken rather than only one. We have been making frequent stops to take bottom samples, magnetic determinations, etc. With the dozens of projects being undertaken, there is almost always something going on aboard: wind balloons being released, radio-sonde balloons being released, water temperatures being taken, plankton samples being taken, etc., etc. There must be millions of dollars worth of scientific equipment crammed on this little ship.

14 July 1946
Cobb Island, Q.

on the bridge are the latest radar sets, the new position finder, "Loran", and myriad other gadgets and devices - all being tested as to performance at high latitudes. When I left the ward room at 2245 after writing up the day's notes I stopped on the after deck to take another look at Greenland. At one point the edge of the ice cap could be seen reaching apparently to the waters edge, with the edge of the ice sheared off vertically. A flock of 17 King Eiders, all males, flew across the bow landward in a short bunched line. Orange bill and shield noticable and white foreparts and black rear parts conspicuous.

15 July 1946 (0800 71°47'N, 57°56'W; 1200 72°30'N, 58°23'W; 2000 73°26'N, 58°45'W)

Today was one of the best days of the voyage to date, both from the standpoint of weather and from the standpoint of birds. The sea was placid and glassy in the morning and evening and only slightly rippled at midday. The sky was overcast and there was intermittent rain but there was almost no wind, a factor which here spells the difference between a good and a bad day. Wind 9 knots. Temp. max. 42°, min. 38°. We were within sight of the coast of Greenland most of the day though we were far out, probably averaging 45-50 ~~knots~~ miles. Here the coastline is made up of a series of small islands mostly too steep sided to bear much snow.

15 July 1946
Cobandley J.

These were rounded on top and reminded me very much of the islands off the coast of Scotland, though they were of course much higher.

Icebergs were much more abundant than previously and averaged much larger. At one time 127 were in sight, ~~at one time~~ and these were too many to count on the radar scope. Some we passed close to which had been under cut by waves, had the caved portion

colored a most beautiful blue, deep blue, by the reflected light and inherent blue color. This afternoon we stopped for two hours ~~which~~ to allow tests to be taken and to allow the two aircraft to get in some flying time. The SOC (Scout-Observation Craft = seaplane) was lowered to the water after considerable maneuvering by a crane, but the helicopter took off and landed on the tiny 2x4 deck several times with the greatest ease after two hours of flying. Both were restored to their stowed positions without mishap. Murres were the birds of the day. They were everywhere; on the water, flying, feeding, and playing. As many as 6 were in a single flock. From the bridge they could be spotted for great distances on the calm water

15 July 1946
C. F. Hadley, Jr.

and most of those seen at a considerable distance seemed to be actively engaged in feeding - diving repeatedly. Those closer in were concerned over the ship. Some turned to and sat placidly watching as the ship passed them, others lost no time in flying away, some dived as the ship approached and then dived again and again until it was past them, and some seemingly unable to fly and too confused to dive, escaped by hydroplaning away on their bellies, not even being able to raise their bodies clear of the water and beating heavily on the surface with the wings at each stroke. One proceeded several hundred yards in this manner before he considered himself safe. Why some seemed unable to fly, tho they seemed to possess all their flight feathers while others flew easily is beyond my explanation. They seem to use their wings to a considerable extent to propell themselves in diving. Some, or I should say many, seemed to delight in flying as closely as possible to the bow of the ship, often circling several times to repeat the trick. At reasonably close range, though considerably

15 July 1946
Continued, p.

short of the distance at which the birds could be identified as murres, the white line on the gape of the bill, characteristic of the Brunnich's murre, was very evident. On most it showed up as conspicuously as an identification badge. A great many birds were seen perched on ice bergs. All that were close enough for identification were gulls or terns. At a distance they appeared black, closer, black backed and white headed, and only very close did their true colors show up. Of course they could be identified as far as they could be seen, almost, if they rose into the air for a moment or two. The following notes were made:

0845 2 Kittiwakes; a dozen birds on one iceberg, 3 on another.

0900 1 Kittiwake, 1 fulmar

0915 4 Dovekies (on water), 2 Kittiwakes, 1 guillemot - size of murre but black all over with white on wings.

0930 41 Kittiwakes (15+25 on icebergs); 5 dovekies; 5 murres; 1 fulmar; 4 seals reported on an iceberg.

0945 14 murres (8 on water); 5 Kittiwakes.

1000 3 murres (first murres identified surely as Brunnich's); 15 birds on a berg

1015 1 Kittiwake, 2 fulmars

1030 7 Sabine's gulls on a growler with 15 arctic terns, in flight showed black heads and characteristic bold wing pattern.

1045 5 Brunnich's murres on water - seen closely; 12 arctic terns, and 4 Kittiwakes on a berg

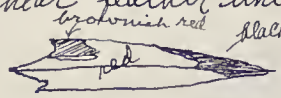
15 July 1946
C.O. Handley, Jr.

1100 3 murres, 1 ~~kittiwake~~ fulmar
1115 15 arctic terns, 3 murres, 2 kittiwakes, 1 fulmar
1130 1 fulmar
1145 2 murres, 1 fulmar. 127 icebergs and coast of greenland in sight.
1200 3 murres, 1 fulmar
1315 2 murres, 1 kittiwake
1330 2 murres, 1 guillemot, 7 Northern Phalaropes around base of iceberg; 1 fulmar.
1345 1 murre, 2 fulmar
1400 1 murre
1415 nothing
1430 5 murres
1455 1 fulmar
1500 1 arctic tern (collected); 3 murres, (1 collected)
1515 2 fulmars
1530 fulmar
1545 nothing
1600 4 murres, 2 fulmars
2100 3 murres, 1 fulmar
2115 16 murres, 2 guillemots, 1 dovekie
2130 30 murres (6 one flock)
2145 6 murres, 1 fulmar

Totals:

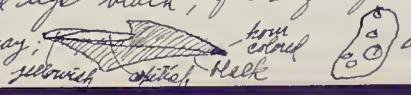
fulmar	19	kittiwake	60	seal 4
brunnich's murre	109	Sabine's gull	7	
dovekie	10	arctic tern	43	
mandt's guillemot	4	northern phalarope	7	

Here is data on the soft parts of the birds collected. #5 arctic tern ♂; eye black, tarsus brown near feather line, toe nails black, legs and feet red



0 0 testes

#6 Brunnich's murre ♀, eye brown with black iris; back of feet and legs black, front of legs and toes yellowish; back above gray;



nails black

16 July 1946
C. Handley Jr.

16 July 1946 (0800 74°33'N, 63°29'W; 1200 74°45'N, 63°20'W; 2000 74°17'N, 61°24'W)

Today, except for the temperature (mean 40°) and the position of the sun, we might have been in the Caribbean rather than in the arctic. The sea was placid and the wind was only about 5 knots. The sky was overcast, but the sun shone thru frequently. It came out from behind the clouds in the northern sky brightly at midnight and I watched it complete its dip and begin its upward climb again. At about 10 minutes after midnight it was three fingers above the horizon, almost due north. Now I've seen the midnight sun. In the early morning we were in sludge ice - few large bergs, but the sea was filled with fragments, chunks, and rotten ice. Capt. Hoyle considered it dangerous to take the submarine further north so we put about at right angles to our former course and proceeded northwestward for 12 miles, then another 90° turn and the rest of the day was spent on a southeasterly course. The Capt. intends to continue circling until he receives further instructions or until we are overtaken by the North Sound. According to radio reports it has been hove to in the vicinity of Davis Strait for two days for no explained reason. Today it was stated that its planes (PBM's) had been

16 July 1946
C. Bradley, Jr.

(2)

unit to Goose Bay, Labrador, again for no stated reason - rumor - to pick up mail. If this circling continues for many days I'm afraid that it will become monotonous. Several specimens of invertebrate life were obtained from surface and bottom samples - #748 on July 15 and #9410 on July 16. While we were stopped this afternoon I collected a fulmar ♂, #11. Nothing of particular interest in the way of birds was observed.

0015 8 murres
0915 7 murres, 2 kittiwakes, 4 fulmars
0930 4 murres (one imm. seen closely - throat and head streaked with white); 3 kittiwakes; 3 fulmars; 12 dovekies (flock)
0945 3 murres, 4 fulmars
1000 2 dovekies, 3 fulmars, 6 kittiwakes ~~fulmars~~, 4 arctic terns
1015 3 fulmars, 7 kittiwakes, 13 murres
1030 4 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes, 8 murres
1045 1 fulmar, 3 kittiwakes
1100 1 fulmar, 2 kittiwakes, 1 murre
1115 1 kittiwake, 5 dovekies
1130 2 fulmars, 4 kittiwakes, 1 murre
1145 6 kittiwakes
1200 Pomarine jaeger 1 (Duvall - dark throughout - no white in wing)
1315 1 fulmar, 1 murre
1330 2 kittiwakes, 1 murre, 2 dovekies
1600 2 jaegers dark phase, 2 murres, 2 kittiwakes
1615 2 murres, 3 kittiwakes, 1 fulmar, 4 jaegers (2 light - two were probably same as prior observation - flying from one iceberg to another too far out for identification)
1630 1 fulmar, 1 murre

16 July 1946
~~Cottadelly, J.~~
1645 2 murres
1700 3 murres, 2 dovekies, 2 fulmars, 1 kittiwake, 2 seals on an iceberg too distant for identification - light brown.
1715 2 murres, 1 fulmar, 15 kittiwakes on a berg
1930 50 kittiwakes on water, 2 murres
1945 4 kittiwakes (on water), 1 murre
2000 1 kittiwake (on water); 2 fulmars (on water); 7 murres.
2015 1 fulmar, 1 murre, 6 dovekies (2, 4)
2030 1 kittiwake, 7 murres
2045 5 fulmars, 1 kittiwake, 1 murre.
2400 7 murres.

Totals:

fulmar	35	seal 2
kittiwake	114	
Pomarine jaeger	5	
Brunnich's murre	86	
Dovekie	29	
arctic tern	4	

17 July 1946 (0800 73°43'N, 61°12'W; 1200 73°44'N, 61°10'W; 2000 73°42'N, 60°48'W). Course 131 2 hr., 221 6 hrs, 311 8 hr., 120 8 hr.).
Sky overcast, sea rough (temp 33-36°), wind 25-30 knots, few icebergs. Circles again today, circles all day long. Once we turned completely about on our course - on the command - "Stand by to roll - we're changing course!" The rumor came thru that Ltd Norton Sound was to join us sometime tomorrow and then a more definite rumor that it was to rendezvous at 0730. Later I heard it was still hove to. So still

13 July 1946
Cortlandly, L.

we circle. It can truthfully be said that many icebergs look alike, in this case at least. There was, however, one bit of excitement during the day. The submarine radioed for permission to perform practice maneuvers - to submerge - and permission was granted. Naturally when it submerged, all contact with it was out. Shortly afterward the radar scope showed pack ice dead ahead. Submarines and ice don't mix. The captain began to get nervous. Forty minutes went by and still no submarine. The captain was probably beginning to wonder how much a submarine cost. We were drawing closer and closer to the ice floe - cold white all across the horizon. There were half a dozen of us on the bridge sweeping the water with our binoculars. Then the submarine broke water far off our port quarter. The captain didn't even wait for it to run up its aerial, but had the blinker send the message, "Pack ice ahead. Rejoin the formation." It turned about and ended the drama. As far as birds were concerned there wasn't much doing. The following observations were

17 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.
made during the day:

1045 nothing
1100 nothing
1115 1 fulmar, 1 kittiwake
1130 1 fulmar, 1 kittiwake, 15 dovekies (9,2,4)
1145 1 kittiwake
1545 10 kittiwakes, 1 fulmar, 1 dovekie, 3 murres
4 seals on a growler - they had crawled up into a wave cave to the lee of the wind.
1600 5 murres, 4 kittiwake
1615 10 murres, 2 dovekies, 10 kittiwakes, 2 fulmars
1630 5 murres, 29 dovekies, (20, 3, 6); 3 kittiwakes, 2 fulmars
1645 2 murres, 5 kittiwakes
1700 1 murre, 1 fulmar

Total:

fulmar	8	seal 4
kittiwake	35	
Brunnich's murre	26	
dovekie	47	

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18 July 1946 (0800 73°48'N, 59°06'W; 1200 73°52.5'N, 59°30'W; 73°56'N, 58°57'W). Course 120 (0400-0300), 350 (0300-1100) 170 (1100-1200), 335 (1500), 026 (1600-1700) 170 (2000-2200)

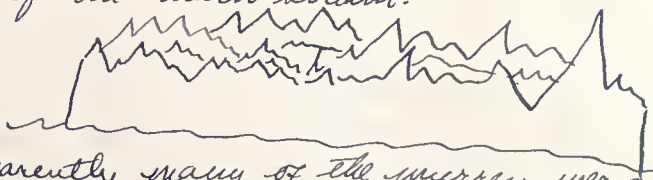
Still waiting for the Norton Sound - Capt. Crayon the operation commander is aboard here. He ordered Capt. Hoyle to take the sub to the edge of the ice. He did. Capt. Crayon has given no further orders. That's why we're pursuing such a peculiar course. The day was peacefully calm, with the water glassy (wind to ten knots only occasionally). Foggy in the AM, cloudy in the PM. Temp. 35°-42°. We stopped in the afternoon to send out the planes. In the process of lowering the SOC to the water the crane operator and

18 July 46
C. Hadley, J.

line handlers were so clumsy that they allowed it to start swinging. That was the end of flying for today. First the elevator and then the wing crumpled against the side of the ship. Later in the day the SOC to be attached to the whitewood arrived and was squared away. The captain said that he had been informed that the Beltrami had left Boston on schedule 15 July and that the Alcoa had left today. He said that the sub had also begun to get impatient and had asked when we expected the Norton Sound. The answer he got was that we suspected the Norton Sound, not expected it. Joking with the letter writers he said that any outgoing letters from this ship would probably be delivered by the writer by hand. He said probably the first mail would be taken out by the submarine when she returned to Portsmouth. The Canadian observer, Capt. Inglis, suggested that we tie our letters to shearwaters to be dropped off at Goose Bay. Despite the fact that we were in 120 fathoms, 720 feet of water, someone thought of fishing and soon there were four lines over the stern. The five knots we were making kept the bait almost

18 July 1946
Cockandley J.

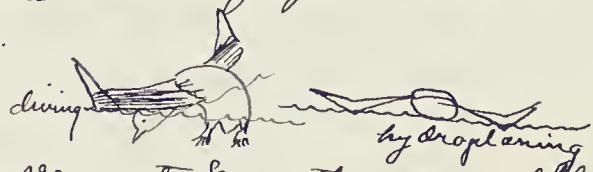
at the surface. To compensate for that the Canadian tied about 20 pounds of lead to his. That made it go down alright, but it also made it hard to pull up, especially since he had 200 feet of line. We saw several peculiar icebergs today, evidently just broken off glaciers and not yet turned over for the first time. They were great rectangular hulks with vertical walls all around and much pinnacled tops. The ship was steered close to one at the photographers request. Probably these came from the side of a glacier, out of the main stream of flow and crumpled on top with the ice slabs pushed out of the main stream.



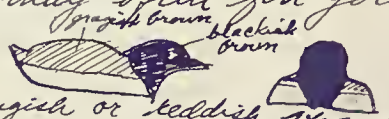
Apparently many of the murres we are seeing are young of the year not yet able to fly. Several groups of four were seen closely enough to determine that two were immature and two were adult. Most immatures were with one or more adults but occasionally a lone individual was observed. The water is so crystal clear that from the bridge I could clearly see the birds swimming under the water. They use their wings in the initial effort to get under the

18 July 1946
Cottundley, J.

which seems to be accomplished with considerable difficulty, they flap their wings as they in flight under the surface.



Dovekies seem to have the same difficulty in submerging often. I got my first really good look at dovekies tonight. They are quite different from murres on the water, aside from their diminutive size. On water size may often fool you. The eye



appears orangish or reddish at a long distance whereas the murres is practically the same color as the head. A good observation was also made on kittiwakes. At a distance on an iceberg it appears to be distinctly black backed with the wing tips just a shade blacker. In the same position and at the same distance, but with the wings extended, they are distinctly gray rather than black. With wings folded under these conditions it looks almost like a miniature black-back.

The following observations were made during the day:

0945 1 guillemot, 4 murres
1000 17 murres (1 group of 4 apparently adult but unable to fly; another group of 4 were 2

18 July 1946
off Handley I.
adults and two immature. 1 fulmar
1015 7 murres (4,1,1,1)
1030 11 murres (5,3,1,1,1)
1200 6 murres (4,1,1), 1 kittiwake
1215 13 murres, 2 dovekies
1315 4 murres (1,3), 1 fulmar
1330 15 murres (4,3,1,1,1,3,2); 17 dovekies (10,7); 2 fulmars
1345 25 arctic terns (on berg); 5 dovekies; 1 kittiwake; 2 fulmars; 2 murres.
1400 12 dovekies (4,8) on water; 2 murres; 1 kittiwake
1415 2 murres
1430 1 murre, 1 fulmar
1445 nothing
1500 3 murres, 1 kittiwake
1515 2 murres, 2 dovekies, 3 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes
1530 9 murres (3,4,1,1); 5 dovekies, 2 fulmars
1615 2 guillemots (reported by Johnson).
2030 50 kittiwakes on and around a berg (reported by cmc. Sault)
2130 5 kittiwakes (on a berg), 7 dovekies (on water) 21 murres.
2145 21 murres, 2 fulmars.

Totals:				
fulmar	13	mandt's guillemot	3
kittiwake	61	brunnich's murre	140
arctic tern	25	dovekie	50

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19 July 1946 (0800 72°57'N, 58°20'W; 1200 73°17'N, 58°32'W; 2000 73°56'N, 58°57'W). Course 170 to ~~0800~~, 350 to 2000,

as we were enveloped in thick banks of fog most of the day bird observations were not worth while most of the time. Icebergs were common, and large, and many were fresh like those seen yesterday. The sea was calm, but the wind was blowing 15 knots. Temp. 36°-42°. We are now doubling back on a set course still waiting for the Norton Sound. Last radioed positions indicated that it was still at anchor.

19 July 1946
C. H. Hadley Jr.

Mr. Ratti says that they must be using different charts from us, because, according to the positions they last radioed, they were anchored on a mountain top along the Greenland coast. The following observations were made:

1000 Mr. Russell and Mr. Johnson reported two Arctic Terns
1430 2 murres
1445 nothing, 1500 nothing, 1515 nothing
1530 1 murre
1545 2 kittiwakes, 1 fulmar, 1 murre
1600 1 kittiwake, 9 murres
1930 8 kittiwakes
2100 1 fulmar, 5 murres

Totals:

fulmar	2
kittiwake	13
arctic tern	2
Brunnich's murre	18

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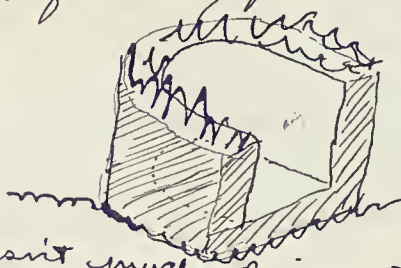
20 July 1946 (0800 - 73°26'N, 58°51'W; 1200 73°28'N, 58°29'W; 2000 73°38.5'N, 59°05'W) Course - to 0100, 350; 0200 stopped; 0300-1100 = 170; 1200-1800 stopped; 1800-2400 = 310. Speed 5K to 1200; then 11.5K.
wind 25K temp 33°-37°

We woke up to a rainy day which soon gave way to snow the first of the voyage. It wasn't soft fluffy snow, but the wet kind that comes down in hard little pellets. The next thing of interest was the sighting of the Norton Sound at 1110, six miles off our port bow. There followed a flurry of blinker messages. Radios were not used during the contact. Another thing of tactical interest is that

20 July 1946
Cornwallis, I.
our flag was ordered down when we arrived off the coast of Greenland several days ago. The colors are not being flown by any ship of the operation. Seven bags of mail were brought over from the Norton Sound and we sent two bags over to them, for transmission back to the States. Lt. Thorrell was transferred over to the Whitewood to go to Thule. He had been one of our best companions. At 1800 we finally got underway - alone. For a welcome change we are going places again, and unhampered by slower ships, we're clipping along at 11.5 knots - Not very fast actually - but seemingly very fast after days of crawling at 5. Mr. Hunter the asst. eng. officer told me he was glad to be travelling at a reasonable speed again because the engines were easier to care for when travelling at full speed. Actually, at 5 knots two engines could carry the load, but in fog and amongst ice the captain kept two additional engines idling in case additional speed or power should suddenly be called for. When the engines are idled carbon and lubricating oil accumulates in all the lines and flues and requires much more frequent

20 July 1946
continued

cleaning than the full ~~quiet~~ engines which burn out all this sludge. We passed many more of the newly born icebergs and I saw one very peculiar one of the following form:



how it got that way is more than I can figure. It was big — too.

There wasn't much doing of an ornithological nature. I spent part of the morning helping Machburn with photographic development. He has converted the barbershop into a dark room and probably has the most ideal working space of anyone on the ship. He agreed that if I would help him some, he would allow me to print copies of any of his photographs I wanted.

1130 11 murres, 2 guillemots, 1 fulmar

1145 25 murres (5, 5, 4, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1); 1 fulmar

1200 1 guillemot - landed so close to ship that its coral red feet were conspicuous.
10 murres

1930 1 parasitic jaeger (medium dark); 10 murres;
1 kittiwake

1945 20 kittiwakes on berg, 5 fulmars around it.
1 guillemot, 5 murres

2345 5 kittiwakes on a berg, 6 murres

20 July 1946
C O'Handley, J.

Totals for 20 July:

Brunnich's Murre	65
Mandt's Guillemot	4
Fulmar	7
parasitic jaeger	1
Kittiwake	26

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21 July 1946 (0800 75°08'N, 65°41'W; 1200 75°41'N, 68°18'W; 2000 75°39'N, 73°05'W)
course 310 to 1446 then 252, speed 10-11.5 K. wind 15 K, temp. 34°-39°. Sea calm and glassy, sky bright but overcast, the sun frequently shining then. Visibility unlimited. Icebergs were uncommon, evidently it is yet too early in the season for them to have spread very far from their birth places. We passed off Cape York at 1100, 22 miles out. Later when we were almost opposite Thule where we changed our course southwestward we were within 15 miles of the Greenland coast, ~~the~~ to my knowledge, the closest we have approached it during this voyage. Along this part of the coast the mountains are not particularly high and are rounded and rolling in long ridges much like those you encounter around Glasgow, Scotland, except that here there are no trees whatever. The mountains were brown, as though grass or heather covered. All others we saw further south appeared bleakly blue or black - perhaps because we viewed them from a greater distance. The present mountains looked friendly enough to

21 July 1946
C. Hartley J.

invite exploration. Snow was largely in restricted banks and in gullies, except some ridges which seemed netted and streaked with it. The icecap showed thru above and behind the mountains when the clouds were just right. For once the usually foggy foothills were visible clear to the water line and in most places the final slope to the sea seemed precipitous, gentle sloped only at infrequent embayments. Three large glaciers, the first that I have ever seen, reached the sea at this point. They are just as they have been commonly pictured. One seemed very huge to me, leading directly from the ice cap and probably at least five miles across the foot. Until the fog closed in again it was a beautiful sight. The helicopter took to the air over a dozen times during the day while we cruised along with never a slack in speed. Each time, it settled again dead center on the tiny landing platform. It practiced picking up and delivering mail bags by means of a cable boat to the ship while in midair. The captain is completely sold on the helicopter as opposed to the SOC which requires so much time and trouble and hazard in lowering it to and hoisting it from the water. He plans to request

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C.O. Handley, J.

the latest helicopter equipment for permanent attachment to the Northwind. After 1446 we steamed away from Greenland toward Devon and philphot Islands which we are scheduled to reach at 0450 in the morning to begin 5 days of soundings and harbor reconnoissance in preparation for the marine landings. The "Greenland Cruiser", a 35 foot cabin cruiser is being readied for this work. It is the only boat aboard suited for long sustained cruises. The sky was lovely "tonight" and Mr. Johnson (Hoskins name) remarked that the most beautiful sunsets he had seen had been at sea. As far as I am concerned, though, those of the Virginia mountains are still the prize winners with me. I will admit that I have never been anyplace before where you could see so many different cloud formations at one time. It is not unusual to look around the ship and see a dozen different types of clouds in half a dozen different strata most any time. I spotted a flying fortress, the first land based plane of the voyage, flying high over the Greenland coast this afternoon. One of the Norton Sound's PBM's was supposed to make a circulous reconnoissance flight to Thule and Dundas Harbor, Devon, this

21 July 1946
Continuing

afternoon but it developed engine trouble and was forced down at Hull. We saw three small seals in the water near the ship at different times during the day. Each time, just a head sticking above water for a few moments. When I spotted the last one from the bridge, the captain and all the bridge officers came out to look at it. The captain lives at Manteo, N.C. and thinks he has seen Dovekies on the sound there. The number of dovekies which we saw today was astounding. By actual count, I saw 12,600, mostly in six hours between 0900 and 1600. There must have been three or four times more than that conservative estimate. Between 0900 and 1600 they were always in sight, sometimes in large scraggly flocks on the water sometimes in tight compact flights in the air. At times the whole sea was covered like a patchwork quilt as far as the eye could reach with flocks of dovekies. On the water the flocks were usually long and strung out usually in confirmation with the swell.

21 July 1946
Cloudy, 8

Often there were as many or more than a hundred and fifty birds in single flocks of this sort. More compact flocks contained many less individuals usually not more than 25 or 50. Some flocks, notably the scraggly ones, usually took to the air well in advance of the ship. A large proportion of the small compact flocks in the path of the ship made their escape by diving, usually to surface only after the ship had passed, but sometimes popping up in the wake or at the beam, only to duck under immediately again. Murres were much more abundant than they have ever been on previous days but their abundance was completely masked by the dovekies. I watched a pomarine jaeger chase an adult kittiwake for a long distance this morning, and much to my surprise the gull seemed to be playing with the jaeger. The predator followed with remarkable closeness every twist, turn, and gyration of the smaller gull, but whenever it tired of the chase, the gull instead of trying to escape, seemed to pursue the jaeger until it took up the chase again. Finally the jaeger refused to play anymore, and flew off alone. During the day the following observations were made:

21 July 1946
CO Handley, R.

0900 50 dovekies - all in sight at one time
10 murres

0915 1000+ dovekies like a patchwork quilt on the water as far as the eye could see, 30, 40, 50 in single compact flocks. 20 murres

0930 750 dovekies, 25 murres, 1 guillemot, 1 kittiwake being pursued by pomarine jaeger (light phase)

0945 300 dovekies, 25 murres, 1 fulmar

1000 250 dovekies, 25 murres

1015 1400 dovekies, 15 murres

1030 400 dovekies, 25 murres, 2 fulmars

1045 800 dovekies (100 one flock), 35 murres, 1 fulmar

1100 100 dovekies, 30 murres

1115 150 dovekies, 25 murres, 1 fulmar

1130 300 dovekies, 50 murres, 3 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes, 1 seal in water

1145 500 dovekies, 75 murres (16 one flock), 3 fulmars 1 seal in water

1200 2100+ dovekies (150 one flock), 100 murres, 1 kittiwake

1215 1000 dovekies, 50 murres

1315 300 dovekies, 25 murres, 10 fulmars (all gray)

1330 800 dovekies, 100 murres, 25 fulmars (½ white, ½ gray)

1345 600 dovekies, 25 murres, 1 kittiwake, 10 fulmars

1415 550 dovekies, 20 murres, 2 kittiwakes, 10 fulmars (one solid white, including wings - the first of the trip - all the rest have seemed to be in moult with the wings dusky or dirty brown)

1430 250 dovekies, 25 kittiwakes (on berg) 10 murres 5 fulmars.

1445 200 dovekies, 10 murres, 5 fulmars. course changed to 252

1500 100 dovekies, 5 murres, 2 kittiwakes, 10 fulmars, 2 glaucous gulls

1530 375 dovekies, 2 kittiwakes, 10 fulmars, 15 murres

1545 300 dovekies, 10 murres, 15 fulmars

2015 10 dovekies, 1 guillemot, 5 murres, 3 fulmars

2030 5 dovekies, 2 guillemots, 5 murres, 1 kittiwake, 1 seal

2045 10 dovekies, 10 murres, 5 fulmars, 1 kittiwake

2100 15 murres, 5 fulmars, 1 kittiwake.

Totals:

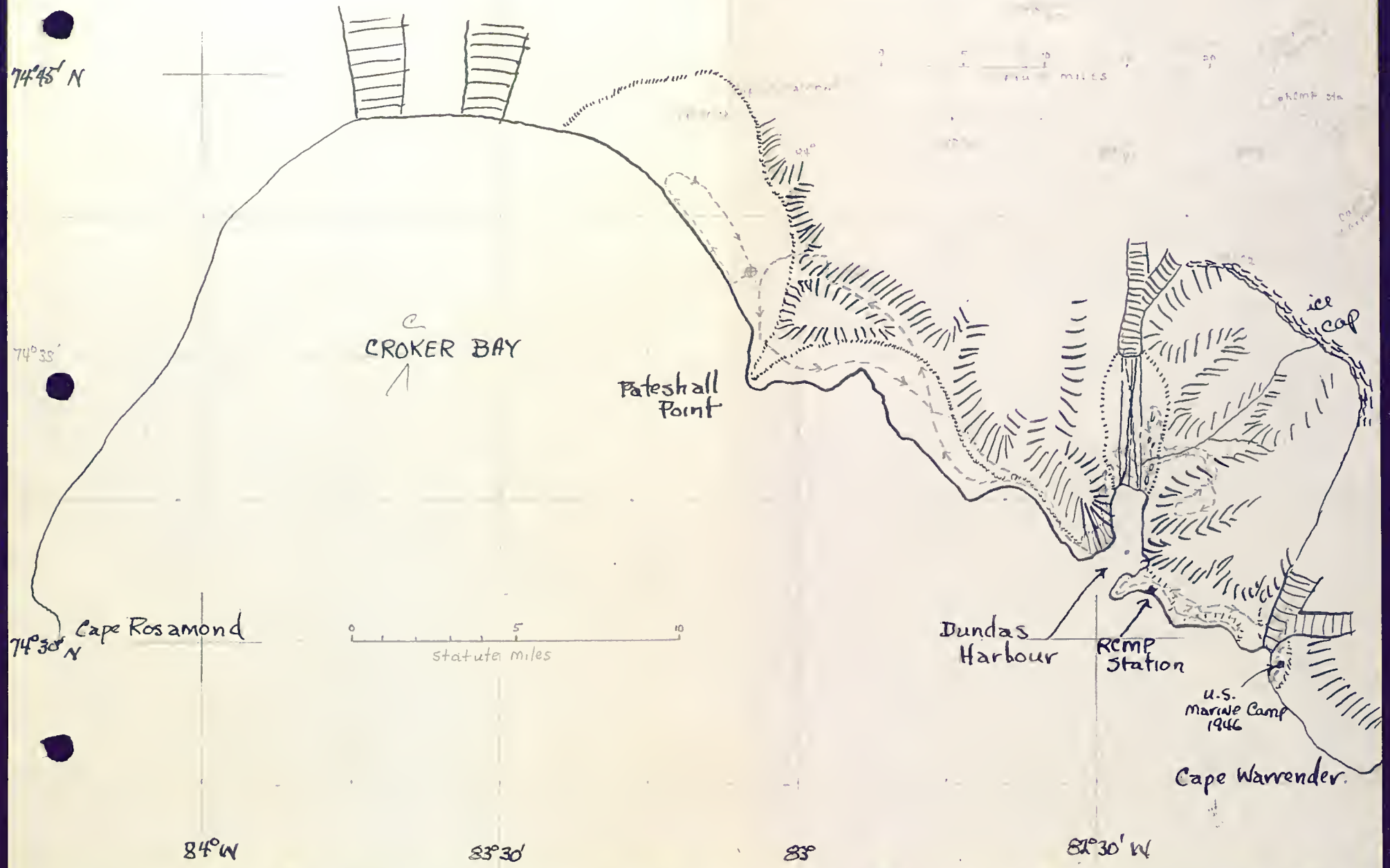
fulmar	125	kittiwake	42
dovekie	12,600	glaucous gull	2
brunnich's murre	765	pomarine jaeger	1
mandt's guillemot	4	seal	3

Lands bounding Lancaster Sound

C.O. Handley, Jr. 21 Aug 1946

Dundas Harbor and vicinity, SE Devon Island,
showing routes of travel 23 July to 16 August 1946

C.O. Handley, Jr. 21 Aug. 1946



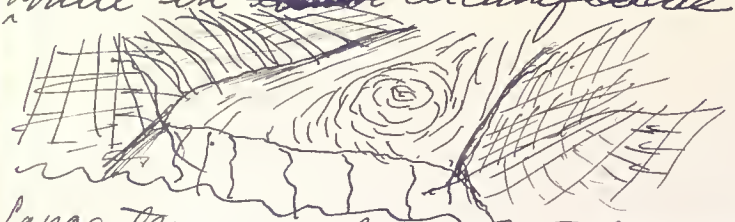
22 July 1946
CDR Dudley, R

22 July 1946 Skirting southeast coast of Devon Island from ~~Hyde~~ Hyde Inlet North of Philphot Island to Dundas Harbor SE of Croker Bay.
(0800 75°01'N, 73°33'W; 1200 74°47'N, 78°58'W; 2000 74°25'N, 80°58'W)

We had intermediate snow and rain all day long with 15 to 25 knot winds. Snow was light and fluffy. Temp. 35°-38°. We came within 5 mi. of land at the Hyde northern Inlet from 0630 to 0730. The inlet was clogged with pack ice and icebergs and the entrance contained several rocks jutting above the surface. Obviously not a good place for an anchorage at this time of the year at least. At this point Devon was high and rugged with the sheer cliffs coming down to water line. Ice capped and with numerous glaciers. At its northern end Philphots Island was low tableland and a wide low bench seemed to extend all around the east and south coasts. The interior had low peneplained mountain ridges. We found ~~the southern~~ Bethune Inlet completely filled with an active glacier which came down from the ice cap which was near the coast at this point. Cape Osborn to the south of the inlet was low with

22 July 46
C.O. Handley

numerous volcanic necks and several sharp pinnacles. From here to about half way to Cape Warrender there was a wide beach and than a somewhat higher wide ~~tab~~ bench extending up to the base of the precipitous mountain slopes over which and between which the ice cap showed. From the halfway point almost around to Dundas Harbor the sheer mountains came down to the very waters edge, and every valley produced an active glacier, most of which reached the sea. Some were several miles across the foot. One I saw had a perfect whirlpool of ice in it perhaps a half mile in ~~diam~~ circumference.

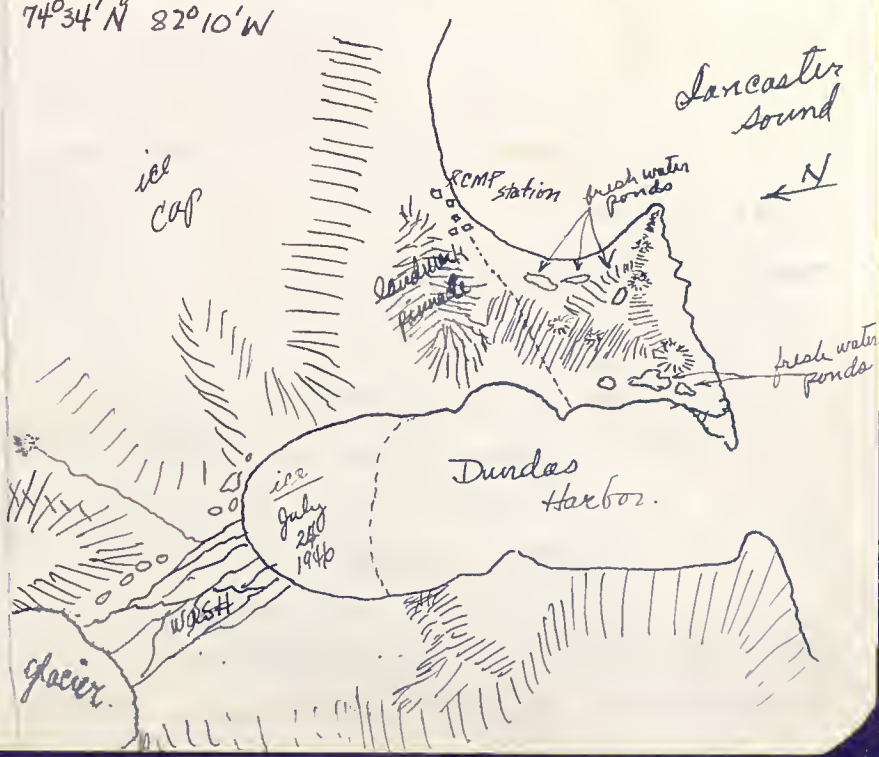


Lancaster sound is very deep. At most places where we were less than 5 mi from shore we were in about 3,000 fathoms. At one place we had 3,600. On the eastern side of the island we encountered considerable pack ice and the Northwind had its first

22 July 46
C. Brandley J.

ice breaking of the voyage. From the east Dundas Harbor is marked by a pyramidal pinnacle, lower than the surrounding mts, which can easily be distinguished by the time Cape Warrender is rounded. The actual harbor entrance is marked by a lesser pinnacle just the the left of the one mentioned. There is low bench land for about three miles eastward from Dundas bounded inland of course by sheer mts. Westward from Dundas the mountains rise from the sea.

74°34' N 82°10' W



22 July, 1946
Cortandby, 7

The ice cap is everywhere visible North of Dundas Harbor and a dead glacier reaches down to within a couple of miles of its head. From the foot to the bay is a broad gravelly wash plain. At this time of the year the harbor has ice only at its head. The water is deep and would accomodate battleships even. The beach drops off so sheer that power boats can be driven right up onto the beach and you can step out with dry feet. In going thru pack ice the northwind gave a slight jolt when the first piece was hit, but then plowed along with only a quiver. Pack ice chunks range in size from nothing to an acre or two, and are mostly 2-4 feet thick seemingly. The charts for this region, at least the ones at our disposal, are quite poor. We were navigating from a chart on which Devon Island was only six inches long and the small islands around it showed as dots. The navigator had a book which gave inadequate verbal descriptions of the coastline, and

22 July 1946
C.O. Handley, J.

using this we found Philpots Island and Dundas Harbor by skirting close to the coastline. We spotted the houses of the Canadian police station from a long distance, the first habitations since Boston. When we came opposite the beach where the station was located, a motor canoe with 5 occupants set out from shore; they pulled along side when we were about opposite the harbor mouth. There were two "mounties", disappointingly dressed in natty brown, rather than in the traditional red and blue uniforms, and 3 Eskimos in native garb of sealskin boots and skin parkas. The mounties went to the captains cabin and the Eskimos became the center of attraction on deck. The whole time they were aboard they were surrounded by a crowd snapping pictures. When given cigarettes they whipped out a cigarette lighter to light up! They speak no English. These three Eskimos were named "Malla", the father of "Natanine" and 5 other children; the other was a young man named "Kidle", a father for the first time three weeks ago. There are no Eskimos

22 July, 1946
Cornwallis, 2

native to Devon Island. These came from Baffin Island further south. They and the mounties are the only inhabitants of Devon Is. They are paid in supplies and live in a separate house from the mounties. When eskimos go into trading posts once a year to barter ~~off~~ their furs they get besides clothing and supplies worthless items like sewingmachines, phonographs, and curiosities. These articles of civilization they care little for and likely as not leave them at the trading station. If they get them home, the inevitable fate is being left out in the weather to rust away. Things like cigarette lighters, pocket knives and compasses, they soon lose. The mounties said they wouldn't let the eskimos cook for them because they liked to know what they were eating. We talked to the ~~ed~~ mounties for sometime in the wardroom before they left, and I learned a lot of interesting things about them. The elder officer was constable H.H. MacLeod with more than ten years in the RCMP, the younger was constable Biensch, a newcomer to the service. Each ~~gold~~ star on the

sleeve at the shoulder indicates five years service. Tours of duty at out of the way posts are for three years, with mail and supplies coming thru once a year. Often the only people they see are ones on the supply vessel once a year. We were the first outsiders these people had seen since they were set down as the sole inhabitants of Devon Island the 8th of September last year by the supply ship Nascopie. Naturally, with noone to talk to besides themselves and the eleven Eskimos, the two mounties were glad to see us and spent most of their time on board while we were at anchor in Dundas Harbor. We treated them to their first movie and first ice cream in over a year. This afternoon when the Norton Sound's PBM flew over to survey Dundas Harbor they thought at first that it was one of their planes, and didn't know what to make of it when they saw the star. Then later when the Northwind hove into

sight the mystery became greater. They were afraid that it might be the supply vessel arriving with the inspecting officer, and they weren't ready for an inspection. Their radio's had played out in January and so they had no inkling of our coming. As we had no colors flying when they set out in their canoe to investigate they didn't know what they might be getting into. Then we unfurled our ensign and they felt a little surer. This station had been abandoned in the late thirties and was only reclaimed last september. They have spent much of their time since then renovating the place and have erected several new buildings besides repairing the old which they found in a sorry state. Their principle duty is patrolling, tho I don't see why patrolling is necessary on an island on which they are the only inhabitants. The most extended trip they have made was across the ice cap last March by dog sled. They intended to visit the outpost at

22 July 1946
Cottandley, J.

Craig Harbour, Ellesmere Island, but became lost in the storms on the icecap and ended up at Hyde Inlet on the East coast of Devon. Because of the foul weather they retreated back to Dundas Harbour without further effort to reach their former destination. They found the going easy up the glacier at Dundas Harbor and across the icecap, but the glacier down to Hyde Inlet was dangerously crevassed and they were continuously rescuing their dogs. They have their bright uniforms with them, but they wear them only when the inspector comes. They say that the summer temperature so far has averaged 36°-40° and that last winter the ~~mercury~~ alcohol went into the bulb at 40° below zero. The ice went out of the harbor two weeks ago, several weeks after the shore ice had gone out. They were of the opinion that Lancaster Sound never froze completely over last winter and the ice broke loose from the shore several times during the winter. Dundas Harbor froze over smooth as glass in

22 July 1966
C.D. Holley Jr.

October and would have been an excellent ski plane base all winter. I was surprised to learn that for all intents and purposes there were no mosquitoes or other biting insects at Dundas tho there are many "sea lice." The Mounties gave us the following information on birds and mammals of the Dundas Harbor region.

Muck Ox - none
Caribou - none - said to occur in west and north
Wolf - a pack of 20 passed west along the coast in march. otherwise none.
Fox - fairly common
Polar bear - fairly common and easily killed by bringing to bay with dogs. several killed this spring.
Arctic Hare - a few - still white when last observed.
Lemming - none seen.
Weasel - frequent
Walrus - numerous - several killed recently.
Seal - common and often killed
White whale - the commonest whale. Several were killed from a herd travelling close to shore last fall.
Narwhal - fairly common and several killed.

Birds of all kinds they said were uncommon and they thought possibly that some of the migrant waterfowl nested

22 July 1946
Cornwallis, N.

at Croker Bay to the west where they thought that there was considerable low ground.

Snowy Owl - some on the icecap but none here.

Gyrfalcon - several in grayphase last fall.

Ptarmigan - a few in winter - icecap in summer.

Snow bunting - common - yg. began leaving nest two weeks ago

Snow geese - a few migrants.

first flowers began to bloom two weeks ago.

The following observations were made during the day. We were anchored inside Dundas Harbor late in the night.

(0630 - 0730 within 5 mi of land at northern inlet)

0645 15 murres, 5 fulmars, 6 Thayer's gulls (feet seemed orange)

0730 50 murres, 15 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes, 1 thayers gull, 1 long-tailed jaeger (long tail conspicuous even at a considerable distance)

(0815 - 1500 at sea proceeding to south inlet)

0815 100 murres (25, 21, 18 etc. - the largest flocks of the voyage.); 3 kittiwakes, 10 fulmars

0830 15 murres, 2 kittiwakes

0845 10 murres, 1 kittiwake,

1015 1 Thayers gull (sub-adult following ship. it was so light that I thought at first that it might be a Kumlein's gull. It seemed to have yellowish feet but this may have been an optical illusion.

22 July, 1946
C.O. Handley, Jr.

1015 (cont'd) 5 fulmars, 15 kittiwakes, 25 murres.
1030 1 Thayer's gull, 25 murres, 5 fulmars
1045 1 Thayer's gull, 1 glaucous gull, 5 kittiwakes, 15 murres, 10 fulmars.
1115 5 murres, 3 fulmars, 8 kittiwakes
1130 1 long-tailed jaeger (dark phase), 14 fulmars, 6 murres, 5 kittiwakes
1145 1 long-tailed jaeger, 6 murres, 7 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes
1245 2 Eiders (?) (Johnson)
1300 1 kittiwake, 3 fulmars, 1 seal
1315 nothing
1330 1 kittiwake, 2 fulmars, 2 murres, in packice — 1 dovekie, 15 fulmars, 10 kittiwakes
1345 40 murres, 10 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes
1400 5 murres, 10 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes
1415 3 murres, 2 fulmars
1430 3 murres
1445 50 dovekies, 1 kittiwake,
1500 2 kittiwakes, 3 fulmars
(1500 – 1800 south inlet to Cape Warrender, as close as two miles to shore)
1515 1 guillemot, 3 fulmars, 3 murres,
1530 1 glaucous gull, 3 fulmars,
1600 15 murres, 5 kittiwakes, 3 fulmars
1615 5 murres, 5 kittiwakes, 5 fulmars
1630 1 guillemot, 1 glaucous gull, 15 kittiwakes, 25 murres, 50 fulmars (mostly gray), 1 jaeger, (light phase – not long tailed)
1645 5 Thayer's gulls, 50 kittiwakes, 25 fulmars, 25 murres.
1700 1 guillemot, 7 kittiwakes, 2 Thayer's gulls, 35 murres, 25 fulmars.
1745 75 fulmars (Mashburn)

22 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.
(800-2200 - Ship warrender to Dundas Harbor)
1815 9 kittiwakes, 62 fulmars, 5 murres
1830 68 murres, 3 fulmars, 1 guillemot, 2 kittiwakes
1845 9 murres
1900 nothing.
1915 2 murres, 2 fulmars
1930 15 murres, 1 fulmar
1945 5 murres, 2 fulmars
2200 1 glaucous gull, 6 Thayers gulls, 75 kittiwake, 1 guillemot, 25 murres, 200 fulmars.

Totals:				
Fulmar	580	Kittiwake	270	
Eider sp.	2	Brunnichs Murre	545	
Long-tailed jaeger	3	Mandt's guillemot	5	
glaucous gull	4	Dovekie	50	
Thayers gull	23	Seal	1	

23 July 1946 - anchored in Dundas Harbor, Southeast Devon Island

July	mean max temp	mean min temp	mean temp	pt. in. mean	foggy days
	47.20	36.40	41.80	1.14	5.3
Aug	43.10	34.00	38.60	1.83	2.3

Today was wonderfully clear and sunny all 24 hours long. It was so clear in fact that you could see clear across Lancaster Sound to the mountainous and snow covered shores of Baffin Island far to the south. There were no clouds on Devon and you could see the tops of all the mountains as well as the icecap. This in itself seems unusual to me. Al and I went ashore in the first boat accompanied by Ensign Johnson at 0900. We "explored" the east shore of Dundas Harbor, including the whole peninsula, until 1100, and then returned to the ship for an hour. At 1500 we went ashore on the west side of the harbor for two hours with Majors May and

and Banning, Capt. Adams, and Mr. Astrom at 1900 we again returned to the east shore for two hours with Ensigns Siemens and Russell. This land was nothing like what I had been led to expect. It was neither solid rock nor was it all bog, and there were no mosquitoes. It was down right pleasant, and except for the lack of trees was much like our own high mountain country. The east peninsula was rolling country, perhaps 500 feet above the sea at its highest point. The rock outcrops which were most prominent on the ridges, but which occurred at frequent intervals in the low grounds and on the beaches as well, were all igneous and metamorphic rock. Granite was common as well as quartzite. The whole landscape of course was covered with the loose stones of glacial till, and moraine formations were everywhere in evidence. Limestone (white, red, and blue), slate, and sandstone were common in this till as well as granite and quartzite. The pinnacles on the peninsula were all solid granite, often much crumbled. Most of the peninsula was covered with

mosses, lichens, and grasses, and only at infrequent intervals were there stretches of bare gravel or solid rock. Wild flowers of many kinds, mostly lavender or yellow, were in bloom everywhere, some forming deep cushions which in places matted the ground. Bumblebees were the most conspicuous insects, with tiny flies and an infrequent butterfly the less common sights. Despite their seeming rarity there was a wide variety of butterflies, all small, and all brown or gray. There was one pretty brown species which resembled some of our own fritillaries. The ground was almost everywhere moist, but nevertheless firm underfoot, and walking was pleasant. Only around the fresh water pools was there soft mucky ground, but the pools were clear and had well defined margins. Bleached bones scattered all over the beaches and ridges indicated that the Eskimos ~~that~~ had had a good hunting season since last September. There were also many older bones giving evidence of previous occupation. By far

the commonest bones were of walrus, of which I saw fragments of dozens of skulls. There were many fragments of ivory from the tusks which the Eskimos had sawed into lengths and discarded the inferior portions. I hadn't realized before that the tusks were hollow. (Hollow only at upper end) Walrus bones seemed much heavier than the other bones encountered. They must be considerably denser in construction. Seal bones were very numerous and there were many remains of the white whale. Fox bones were also common. (NO! There were small seal) Polar bear bones were few. I found a few fragments of caribou bones, the lower jaw of a narwhal, (NO! Eskimo carved walrus) and the anterior portion of a wolf- or dog skull. (Proved to be dog) Fox scats were everywhere, and on two low ridges I found well developed and evidently occupied fox burrows. Each ridge had half a dozen or more ~~ridges~~ burrows. There was much old sign of lemmings but not very much new. Evidently they are not very common just now, but there are ~~never~~ the less a few, for there were skull fragments in most of the fox scats and I located three or four evidently

active colonies and several sizable dung heaps. Evidently they don't make mudways like microtus, but they have similar dumps, most frequently in low moist spots. All the active colonies I located were in moist mossy areas. I found one well-built surface nest which I attributed to lemmings. It was in a mossy area of perhaps six acres in extent. It was made of dried grasses and mosses, was cylindrical in form, six inches in diameter and twelve inches deep, and was fitted snugly into the live mosses and was almost flush with them at the surface. There were no signs of hares nor weasels. Later in the day Capt. Dorsey and Comdr. Dale reported seeing a tan animal a foot long and with snake like movements in a rocky area; evidently a weasel. Birds about as abundant as might be expected in such an area. The snow bunting in its bold black and white summer plumage was by far the most common species and was reported by almost everyone who went ashore. Capt. Adams was

23 July 1946
Chandler R.

gave an accurate description of one which he observed from the helicopter. They were mostly observed in family groups in which the young were mostly still bobtailed. One nest with young ~~was reported~~ and another nest with blue eggs were reported by crew members. The buntings were mostly around the rock outcrops and evidently nest in such locations. Ringed Plovers were the ~~most~~ most evident land bird and were seen most commonly on the gravelly, relatively barren ridge tops. Most evidently had eggs about to hatch or young just out of the nest, for they were just like miniature killdeer in their efforts to lead you away by broken wing and tail fanning ruses. Their bobbing call note was characteristic of the barren ridges. On the grassy slopes and around the fresh water ponds Bairds sandpipers were much in evidence, and also evidently had young just out of the nest. Besides the broken wing and prostration tactics, another of its favorite tricks was to

23 July 1976

Occasionally flush up to about twice normal size and flutter across a pond, just barely clearing the surface of the water, and crying in distress all the while. The buffy band across the breast of the Baird's sandpiper is not very evident in the field, but the odd size, intermediate between the least and the pectoral, together with the general buffy coloration make it unmistakable. It is about the size of a white-rump I suppose. The much broader band on the breast of the ringed plover is readily noticable in the field and I believe it could in most cases be safely separated from the semipalmated plover. The west shore of the harbor is much more barren than the east, being rough and broken, with the frequent rock ridges much crumbled, and the mossy and grassy stretches less frequent. Fox scats were numerous here and there were a few hare droppings. The general geological make up of the harbor area was of basal igneous rocks overlaid by sedimentary rocks dipping gently northward. All the mountains were of sedimentary rocks at the summit

23 July 1946
C. H. Lindsley Jr.

and half way down the side. All were steep and had their sides covered with land slides. Several times during the afternoon I heard the rumble and then saw the dust and falling stones of avalanches. Mountain sides and steep sided valleys are good places to stay away from around here. The sedimentary rocks are very fossiliferous and clumps of fossil coral are common sight. These are usually roughly oval or cushion shaped, and are commonly about 12 in. long the long way. ~~They~~ Some are larger and some are smaller and some are of irregular shapes. They are rough surfaced and are grayish white. In the ice at the head of the harbor were several seals out sunning themselves on the ice. All seemed to be small and all the skulls I found were small. Seals have been seen playing several times in various parts of the harbor. In a partially exposed bone pit on the east peninsula I discovered the bones of a large baleen whale. The skull measured 4 feet wide across the occipital condyles

23 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

and one bone, probably a rib, measured 18" in diameter at the articular surface. D. Moreau has obtained numerous types of copepods and shrimps and several crinoids and coelenterate medusae in plankton samples from the harbor. During the day the following bird observations were made:

East peninsula, 0900 – 1400:

American Brant 12 (flying along RCMP station bay)
King Eider 8 (2♀) (RCMP station bay)
Northern Eider 12 (all males) "
Oldsquaw 8
Snow bunting, 15 (3 family groups)
~~Lapland longspur 3~~ ✓ Lapland longspur 3
Ringed plover 10, Thayers gull 50
Baird sandpiper 1, Glaucous gull 2
Fulmar 300 (200 in one flock on water in a rock bound cove)
Parasitic Jaeger 2 (elongated central tail feathers conspicuous only when the bird spreads its tail in banking)

West shore, 1500 – 1700:

King Eider 11 (4♂ 7♀), Snow Bunting 2
Glaucous gull 3, Thayers gull 1, Seal 9
Parasitic jaeger 2

East peninsula, 1900 – 2100

Baird sandpiper 8, Ringed Plover 4, Snow Bunting 23 (3, 3, 2, 10, 5), Red-thr. loon 1 on fresh water pond – acted as tho nest were nearby. Oldsquaw 1♀ (on fresh water pond)

23 July 1946
C. O. Handley, Jr.

Glaucous Gull 2 (evidently nesting from the way they scolded me). Thayer's Gulls (3 coll)

Total:

Red-thr. Loon	1	Ringed Plover	17
Fulmar	300 (4 coll)	Baird Sandpiper	9 (1 coll)
Brant	12	Glaucous Gull	7
Old squaw	9	Thayer's Gull	56
Northern Eider	12	Lapland Longspur	3
King Eider	19	~~Lapland Longspur~~	~~3~~
		Snow Bunting	40 (1 coll)

24 July 1946 (Anchored in Dundas Harbor, SE Devon Island until 1600 then East thru Lancaster Sound into Baffin Bay). 2000 – 74° 25.5'N, 81°10'N Today was as clear and bright as yesterday and we spent the morning with three soldier volunteer helpers on the east peninsula collecting plants and birds. I made a collection of about 20 kinds of plants including some such familiar ~~species~~ kinds as buttercup, heather, saxifrage, willow, sedge, grass, Equisetum and chickweed. Besides there were other less familiar varieties. In this rocky tundra soil, plants characteristically grow in cushions, some only an inch or so in diameter, others a foot or more. Many of the grasses ~~also~~ grow this way too. Generally speaking, the only continuous growths are in the low flats about the freshwater ponds and even here hummocks are characteristic. In these

low areas, and even in some level areas among the rocks the moss makes the ground soft and springy, like walking on a mattress. In the meantime, Al Duvall and his soldiers collected several more Baird's Sandpipers, a Thayer's Gull, and more fulmars. Later in a short cruise of the bay we collected a guillemot, a glaucous gull, and a Thayer's gull, and saw a black-thr. Loon. When I returned to land again for an hour I collected a fine red-thr. Loon. Undoubtedly the most widely distributed and most abundant plants are the Bryophytes and Thallophytes. The white reindeer moss is common, but the green mosses, not dissimilar from those of more southern latitudes, are a more common sight. A peculiar whitish moss which appears at first glance to be a precipitated crust is characteristic of the dry rocky areas. Many rocks and some of the ground is sparcely covered with lichens. Liverworts grow in some of the moist mossy areas. We put out to sea again at 1600 to meet the Beltrami

in Baffin Bay. As we proceeded eastward along the coast there was a great flurry of picture taking, for the coastline was grandly exposed in the bright sunshine. Pack ice is continuously streaming thru Lancaster in long thin strands; there are quite a few icebergs, produced by Devon's and Baffin's glaciers. About suppertime we struck one strand of pack ice at too great a speed and sheared off part of the bow propeller. They determined this by the fact that there was a time lag in each revolution of the propeller after this incident. Everybody took the attitude that we didn't need it anyway. It is used only in breaking fast ice. The mounties say that the ice in Lancaster Sound in the wintertime breaks off at the edge of the land fast ice at each high tide. We stopped several times for Mr. Moreau to take oceanographic stations. Each time we stop he takes bottom samples, salinity samples from

24 July 1947
C. Buckley, Jr.

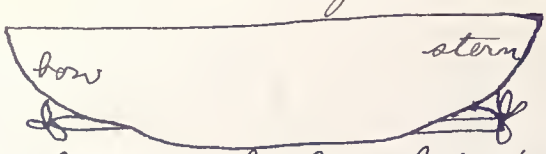
various depths and takes water temperature (Bathythermograph) measurements at ~~various~~ depths every hour or so while we are underway. At this latitude the temperature of the surface water averages about 34° at this time of the year. In the winter, because of the salt content it doesn't freeze until about 28° is reached. At greater depths the water temperature increases on a smooth curve until a certain maximum is reached and then it declines again. The following bird notes were made during the day:

Red-th. loon 1 (coll)
Fulmar 200
Black-th. loon 1
Oldsquaw 4
Northern Eider 50 } one large flock RCMP
King Eider 25 } Sta. Bay. - mostly drakes.
Ringed Plover 10
Bairds Sandpiper 15 (2 coll)
Glaucous Gull 10 (1 coll)
Thayers Gull 20 (2 coll)
Brünnich's Murre 2
Mandt's Guillemot 1 (coll)
Raven 3
Snow Bunting 25

Seal - numerous small heads in harbor and off harbor mouth.

Course 010 to 3pm, 116 to 2400 25 July, 1946
reversed course 2330 Cortandley, Jr.
0800 74°37.5'N, 74°57'W; 1200 75°10'N, 72°10'W;
2000 74°56.5'N, 67°05'W, speed 11.5 K. 2400 74°45'N, 66°15'W

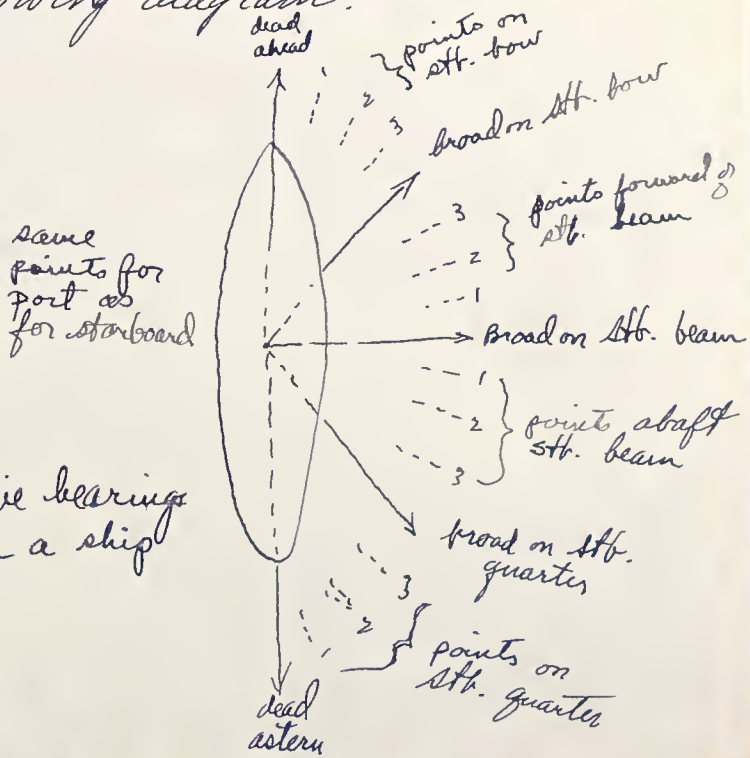
25 July 1946 At sea - proceeding east into Baffin Bay to meet the Beltrami. The day was clear and bright but we spent most of it catching up on sleep after two strenuous days ashore. No systematic bird observations were made, but the birds seen were the same kinds and in the same proportions as those encountered previously in this part of Baffin Bay. The Chief Engineer, Mr. Goodwin, showed us several pictures of the Northwind taken in dry dock; they gave me a clearer understanding of the bow screw. Except for the lack of a rudder you would think you were looking at the stern instead of the bow.



The ship has no keel and is round bottomed, since the ice would shear off a keel. The theory of the bow propeller is as follows: In solid ice the helium ballast is shifted to the stern, raising the bow above the ice and bringing the bow screw up under it. The bow propeller flushes the water from under the

25 July 1946

~~Commander~~ ice, creating an air space. The helium ballast is suddenly shifted forward, bringing the ~~bows~~ bow down like a hammer on the ice, which gives because there is no water immediately below it to support it. The ice we struck yesterday which damaged the bow propeller was a growler which was too thick to break, and which the ship rode up onto because of the too great speed. Commander Sault described the ~~quartering~~ orientation of a ship to me as shown in the following diagram:



Relative bearings from a ship

0200 74° 44.5'N, 70° 17'W; 1200 74° 46'N, 72° 48'W; 2000 74° 42'N, 76° 30'W
Course 264-266 all day

26 July 1946
CO Handley, J

26 July 1946 At sea - Baffin Bay. The day was spent sleeping, catching up on writing up notes, and cleaning the walrus and whale skulls. The mounties brought the walrus skull to us, tusks and all, much to the Eskimo's dismay. The ivory of the tusks has considerable value to them, and all the skulls you find on the beach have had the tusks broken out. The only signs of them are the inferior sections which have been sawed off and discarded. The walrus skull was filled with fly maggots and cleaning it was a dirty job. The skull was of a young female killed in June. Al found the white whale skull on the beach. Evidently it had just recently been killed too, since it was still covered with dried meat and still had the peg-like teeth intact. An interesting point of note was that the teeth were worn in opposite directions on opposite sides of the jaw, why I don't know.

26 July 1946
C.O. Handley, J.

We met the Beltrami exactly on schedule at 2130 last night and without stopping or slowing down, turned about and began leading it back to Dundas Harbor to unload its marine detachment and their equipment for their three weeks exercises on the icecap. How we met all these ships exactly where we're supposed to and exactly when we're supposed to in the middle of an ocean, with both parties proceeding in opposite directions full speed, is amazing to me. It rained off and on all day long, but toward midnight it cleared and we sighted Devon Is. from 75 mi. out. Only the ice cap and the snow covered mountains were visible from this distance and with the sun shining brightly on them they looked like a big dish of snow white ice cream sitting on the water. The air is so clear up here that you can see amazing distances, several times further than you can see in more southern latitudes. The distances are deceptive too; a mountain or hill which seems to be only a mile or so away is really three or four, and hikes really stretch out. It seems to be the rule and not the exception to be able to see across Lancaster Sound to Baffin Island and Bylot Island. No bird observations were recorded, and nothing of note was seen.

0800 74°29'N, 82°15'W 27 July 1946
CO Handley, Jr.

27 July 1946 Off Dundas Harbour, Devon Is.
We were unable to move into the harbor in the early morning because of thick fog so stood at anchor as close to the harbor mouth as was safe. When the fog cleared, we had been underway only a few minutes when there was a series of severe jolts and we came to a grinding scraping stop — firmly aground! Everybody rushed up on deck and the condition "able" signal was given. In condition "able" all waterproof hatches are secured so that all compartments are water tight. In condition "Baker" which is ordinary sea routine the hatches are prepared for securing, but are not secured. Soundings revealed that the bow had been shoved up 8 feet out of the water and was resting in 3½ fathoms. Rocks were plainly visible under the water all off the starboard bow. At low tide in the afternoon they stood 18" out of the water! The skipper was very much disturbed and it seemed like ages before he decided what to do. Finally he ordered two engines full to stern. We moved ever so slightly and then stopped again. By the time

27 July 1946
CO Handley, J.
he ordered 4 engines and then six engines in line, the tide had gone down so much that they were of no avail and we creakingly settled firmer and firmer. Finally efforts were terminated to await the rise of the tide which should reach its crest at 2230-2330. In the meantime extreme measures were taken to lighten the ship and thus bring it up. All the fresh water supply was pumped overboard and we commenced to drain the fuel oil supplies into the sea. Two full tanks - 26 thousand gallons - weighing over 100 tons - gushed over the side. Two LCVPs from the Beltrami came along side and the anchors and the long heavy anchor chains were lowered into them all the whale boats, motor boats, and motor launches were lowered over the side as well as the seaplane (SOC). The 40 ft. motor launch alone weighs 16 tons; besides that there are two cabin cruisers, and 3 whale boats. Thus lightened, everyone settled back to await the zero hour. In the meantime Commodore Crozier (elevated to that rank since this operation began) and comdr. Beaman had arrived in

27 July 1946
C. H. Handley Jr.

a PBM in a prearranged flight from Truk - A very poor time for the task force commander to arrive on the scene. Besides all this there was another unfortunate incident. A motor whale boat was being lowered over the side when suddenly one of the hoist lines gave way and plunged the boats four occupants and George, the ship's mascot, into the icy water. The boat was left dangling vertically with one end just in the water. I was the only one standing by at the moment of the incident and began at once to throw the life lines over. Fortunately all the men were wearing life jackets. The motor mac climbed immediately back into the boat and the coxswain grabbed one of the life lines, yelling for help hysterically all the while. Itchy, the boatswain, was carried away by the strong current, and had it not been for a motor whale boat approaching from the Beltrami at the moment, might well have been lost, for it takes only a few minutes to freeze a man in this cold water. I've heard various estimates up to 15 minutes. Ensign

27 July, 1946
Cottaldley, J.

Russell had struck out after Itchy, when he realized the whale boat would pick him up, so he rescued George and swam back to the dangling boat. George is the whole ship's mascot but "Russ" is his best friend and official guardian. Russ said he was glad that whale boat came because he was sure he would never have been able to swim back to the ship against the current towing Itchy. Finally everyone was hoisted back on board again none the worse for their experience except for cold shock, and all soon recovered from that. Russ said he didn't notice how cold the water was because he was numbed the moment he hit it but when he tried to climb back up the sea ladder with George over his shoulder he couldn't make it and had to be hoisted. When zero hour arrived we gave one mighty surge with all six engines in line and hard astern and we were off. By midnight we were anchored in Dundas Harbor with the Beltrami which had already begun unloading. It seems that this morning the navigator had been following the same course which carried us safely into the harbor before,

27 July 1946
Continued by J.F.

but the captain insisted that we were too close to shore and had ordered hard left rudder and cut the port engine moments before we hit. Later soundings proved that the shoal water extended one boat length to port and two to starboard, with deep water again from there to shore. The navigator had been right. For several hours during the evening, fulmars were passing eastward close to the shore by the thousands in a long continuous flight. An examination of the hull showed that we had no leaks to show for our unfortunate experience. The Northwind has two hulls, and fuel oil and water is stored in the space between. The outer hull is an inch and 3/8 solid steel - made for long wear and tough service. The following bird observations were made:

Fulmar 5000 +
Northern Eider 110 (75, 35)
Glaucous Gull 3
Thayer's Gull 10
Kittiwake 10 (outside harbor)
Brunnich's Murre 25

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28 July 1946 Anchored in Dundas Harbor, Devon Island. Today, from beginning to end, was one of the most disagreeable of the voyage, from the standpoint of weather at least, for it poured down rain the whole time, and there was

28 July 1946
Ostrandley, I.

a brisk cold wind to boot. Despite the rain, a party of ~~eight~~ seven of us including Maj. Banning, Comdr. Shea, Capt. Dorsey, Capt. Inglis, Lt. Morlan, Al, and myself, hiked to the glacier 3 miles east of Dundas Harbor and spent an hour up on the glacier. Most of the way up to the glacier was rough going for we followed the bench above the beach and found it strewn with one moraine after another of jumbled boulders, and cut by numerous deep ravines, many of which were blind and held ponds at their lower ends. From the sea these benches at the base of the precipitous mountain slopes look smooth and easily traversable, but they're certainly far from it. You frequently encounter ridges of rocks which can be described by only one word — crumbled. They are just as tho some giant hand had grasped them, squeezed, and then released the hold without disturbing the pieces, except to allow some to avalanche down the sides. I suppose the crumbling is really the result of frost pressure. In most of the ravines, small streams cascade down to the sea. I was surprised to find them running, not as

28 July 1946
Col Handley off.
at home!

cold as Little Stony Cr. The streams running off the glacier were of course ice cold. Enroute to the glacier I discovered several old caribou antlers and a few walrus bones. To stand at the base of the glacier and look up, the height and steepness of the slope seems appalling. This portion of the glacier is dead and its steep convex slope is smooth right down to the valley floor. At the active foot where ice bergs break off into the bay the slope is jagged and cracked and impassable. At the bottom of the dead slope the glacier was melting and was slick and I had my doubts about getting up it very far, but after we got started the footing became better, tho it was about like climbing up the east end of Stone Mt. near Atlanta, Ga. Once the top was gained we found the going rough because the ice was wrinkled by a vast endless field of big rounded wrinkles and knolls caused by the downward pressure of the ice from the ice cap against the dead foot. All over the glacier there were little rivulets of clear water, those near the foot salty from sea spray, those further up sweet. Also there were everywhere

28 July 1946
Cortandley, J.

little perfectly cylindrical holes filled with water. They varied in size from that of a dollar stack of dimes to that of a five gallon bucket of paint. ~~at~~ The bottom of each hole was covered with sand, and the diameter of the hole is proportional to the amount of sand it contains. Of course these holes as well as the streams freeze over in winter and new courses are started in the spring. When these clear pure waters freeze they are bluer than the old surrounding ice. That explains the bright blue striations in icebergs partly. Near the sides of the glacier were scattered stones of sizable moraines, washed down from the surrounding mountain slopes. We came down off the glacier on its eastern side and visited the marine encampment being set up on the beach there. At the time of our visit they had already landed most of the supplies from the Beltrami and had set up part of the tents. The Beltrami is anchored in Dundas harbor and the supplies are brought from there to the camp by LCM's. Alligators pick the supplies up on the beach and carry them to the camp. An attempt of ~~the~~ an alligator to climb up the face of the glacier

ended in failure and they probably will not be able to make it for the initial slope is too steep. The only hope for getting supplies onto the ice cap is by weasel, one of which had the transmission burnt out at the time of our visit. These are light enough to be winched up the initial slope easily and might be able to make it under their own power even. Capt. Dorsey who has been to the antarctic with Byrd and who is supposed to have discovered the highest point of the Greenland Ice Cap has given the marines many ideas on how to get up the glacier. We rode back to the northwind by Alligator and LCM, after helping unload the supplies, the first time I've ridden in these craft since the Rhine practice maneuvers on the Meuse River in Holland. We didn't see a living thing on the glacier and as a matter of fact didn't see any kind of life of interest all day, except that I found a mushroom growing near the foot of the glacier, the first we have seen. The following bird notes were made:

28 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

Fulmar 1000 +
Oldsquaw 10
Northern Eider 30
Glaucous Gull 8
Ringed Plover 2
Thayers Gull 5

Brunnichs Murre 5
Snow Bunting 25

By going on this glacier trip we missed the first anniversary celebration of the Northwind, which was the occasion for a super dinner with fancy appetizers, several courses, and fashionable desserts, presented in menu decorated with a fine picture of the northwind underway at sea. The whole crew and all the passengers were recipients of this. Bob Johnson says the four vessels of this class, the northwind, East wind, Southwind, and westwind are the newest in the coast guard. Two prototypes, including the original Northwind, were given to the Russians some time ago. The skipper was formerly captain of the East wind in the Greenland patrol.

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29 July 1946 Anchored in Dundas Harbor, SE Devon Island.

Today was ~~Cloudy~~ and cold and with a strong west wind. We went ashore with two soldier helpers at 0800 and proceeded eastward past the RCMP detachment to a flat peninsula

29 July 1946
C O Hall, Jr.

between there and the glacier to the east which I surveyed from afar yesterday. It had a large pond and one of the largest continuous grassy areas we have seen on Devon. I thought perhaps it might harbor some different bird life than we have observed. At first I mistook ~~three~~ glaucous gulls resting on the pond for geese, they are so large and so white, but a more careful look dispelled this mistake even tho they were probably a mile and a half away. This morning we found gulls, eiders, and oldsquaws resting on the pond but they were too wary to permit a shot. The flocks of eiders are predominantly of males in their flashy black and white plumage, with only an occasional female. Evidently most of the females, or all except the non-breeders, are still on the nesting grounds, wherever they are. We shot a murre this morning which had a big brood patch, but the mounties do not know of its nesting nearby. I mentioned seeing glaucous gulls apparently still nesting and they said that they had seen downy young at that spot only a few

29 July 1946
C. S. Lindley Jr.
days ago. They think that the ravens nest far up in the heads of the valleys near the ice cap. We noticed another baleen whale skull on this peninsula today, somewhat smaller than the one on the Dundas Harbor peninsula. When I mentioned the bone pits I found on this last named peninsula to the mounties they suggested that they were probably food caches of the earlier inhabitants or of the early explorers. The bones are indeed very old and too many different kinds are to be found in the same pit to have gotten there by accident. The pits were about six feet in diameter, or somewhat larger, and one had, besides the large baleen whale, remains of caribou, walrus, seal, and bear. The only large whale the present mounties have seen here is the killer which they saw catch a narwal last September. This morning I took a long shot at a glaucous gull over the beach which turned it over, but it flew seaward apparently unhurt. About 200 yards out it folded up like a blown out tire and plummeted down into the water where it floated away with the current

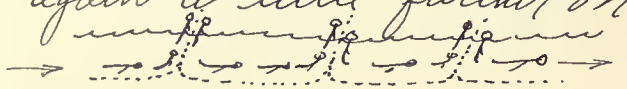
29 July 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

breast up, and with never another movement! Along moist sloughs in the grassy plain I noticed several families of Lapland Longspurs, the young short-tailed and evidently just out of the nest. The young appeared distinctly yellowish and the bright plumaged adults were a far cry from the drab birds seen in the United States in the wintertime. All collected were of the young. The Ringed Plover was the only shore bird encountered on the plain, and it was on the gravelly upper margin. Here, at least, they are the commonest and most widely distributed shorebird. I picked up another good polar bear skull and found a barnacle, a mussel shell, and a small conch shell on the beach. A polar bear, said to have been a large one, raided the marine encampment last night and created no little excitement. Axes and shovels were the only defensive weapons and there seems to have been but one rifle available. The marine who ran for the rifle, ran so fast that he didn't have time to stop for it, so the bear escaped with its life. All found a pup bad type

29 July 1946
C O Handley, P.
mushroom. The one yesterday was of the toad stool type. Coming back in we stopped at the detachment to pick up a seal the Eskimos had obtained for us the 27th. It was shot 100 yards off the detachment with a .22 cal. rifle. Seals sink to the bottom when killed, so they are shot only in shallow water where they can be easily fished out or on the ice; in deep water they are harpooned and kept afloat by attached inflated sealskin bags. For this seal killed Saturday, we paid the Eskimos the equivalent of a dollar in tobacco, etc. We obtained the hide, flippers, skull, and stomach. This seal is what the Eskimos call Ojout, and it only arrived in the vicinity about 2 weeks ago. The common small seal is called Netcheck. One I saw today only a few feet off the beach seemed all grey, at least from head to shoulders. Another seal, called jar, arrived about the same time we did last week, the first time the mounties or the Eskimos have seen it here; they think the ships are responsible for its being here possibly. We noticed that the seals do seem to be rather disturbed by the activity in the harbor. When the Beltrami went into the harbor while we were still aground the other day I noticed

29 July 1946
E. Lindsay

that several sizable herds of seals left the harbor and headed seaward soon after it entered. Seals seem to be curious creatures and poke their heads and shoulders out of the water to look around. They seem to be awed by such a large ship as the northwind and after one quick look, generally come up for a second glance, as tho unbelieving, and then hit the bottom for good. When travelling or playing they bounce straight out of the water, slide back in and then bounce up again a little further on.



The mounties say that the Ojoink seal does not grow as large here as further south. The mounties say the Dundas Harbor detachment was established in 1926 and abandoned in 1933. During that period there were a few white trappers and whalers in the region. 1933 was the last year that white hunters or trappers were allowed on the arctic islands, the game being reserved for the Eskimos. In that year the post at Dundas Harbor was abandoned by the RCMP, and was taken up and operated until 1936 by the Hudson Bay Company. They brought in

19 July 1946
Co Handley, J.
several families of Eskimos from the "Starvation Land" of Labrador (where all the game had been killed out) to see whether they could become established on Devon Is. They were dissatisfied because they were restricted (in saying that they are to be able to travel inland) to a narrow land along the coast by the icecap, and in 1936 migrated to Baffin Is. The site was not reoccupied until 1945. When the Mounties travelled across the icecap last winter (they carried no compass), but got their direction from the snow drifts and relied on the ability of the Eskimos to interpret this. The mounties gave us the following information from their log.

white whale and narwhal 1945 Sept 17 – Sept 28
1 Raven flew over Hdq 9 Mar 1946
snowbunting first 1 May 1946
snow goose first flew over Hdq 29 May 1946
old squaw & Eider (MaHik) appeared on 3 June 46
also sea gulls (whitecrs) and a few sandpipers
walrus – a few seen on 27 June 1946

Walruses were seen (by mounties and others) in the harbor today while we were away, and seals are quite abundant there. The following birds were noted during the day:

Northern Eider 48 (16; 24♂+1♀; 19♂+1♀; 27)
Old squaw 15 (4, 11) – one with long tail
Common Loon 1 (Duvall) [?] Black + Lowe – not.
Lapland Longspur 4 families of yg. just out of
Ringed Plover 5
Snow Bunting 50 fulmar 100
Glaucous Gull 6
Brunnichs Murre 3
Mandt's Guillemot 2

29 July 1946
CO Handley, Jr.

It began to snow shortly after supper and we soon had a first class snow storm going - so heavy that you couldn't see to land at times. When I went below at midnight the decks were covered with half an inch and it was still snowing.

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30 July 1946 From Dundas Harbor west along the coast of Devon Is. in Lancaster Sound to Stanley Inlet.

This morning there wasn't a cloud in the sky and the whole landscape was glistening white. The snow must have been 2 or 3 inches deep on shore. We weighed anchor at 0700 and proceeded westward to look for possible anchorages and seaplane bases for the Norton sound and her brood. The Beltrami left for Thule yesterday afternoon having completed the disembarking of the marines and their supplies. West of Dundas Harbour the character of the mountains changed abruptly from what was seen to the east. This is so apparent from the west that the exact location of Dundas Harbor can be determined as far as the mountains around it can be seen. Those to the east are sharp volcanic peaks, those to the west sedimentary ridges and mesas. Beginning at Dundas Harbor the stratified

Co Handley, J.

sedimentary rocks occur first ~~and~~ on the crests of the ridges and then as you proceed west and the strata dip gently in that direction you find more and more of the mountains of that formation until the strata reach clear to the water and the only signs of vulcanism is in infrequent batholiths sometimes penetrating as much as a thousand feet of sedimentary strata. There is amazingly little evidence of diastromorphism and most of the strata are flat lying for miles ~~on end~~ and miles. cliff forming limestone, brown, red, and grey, ~~are~~ is the predominate rock and the south coast of Devon is an awe inspiring spectacle, like a grand canyon with only one side. Almost everywhere west of Dundas Harbor the mountains drop off into the sea in a series of sheer cliffs, with no flat ground at the bases. The snow of last night left the avalanched slopes between the limestone strata colored white and thus made the strata stand out much more conspicuously. This is the kind of scenery which forces

30 July 1946
C.R. Handley

laymen to wish they knew more about how it was made. Dr.Ault was looking for a geology book tonight to try to learn something about it he was so impressed. One of the grandest sights was one of these limestone mesas ("Cathedral Rock") 5 miles long with sheer cliffs all along its length and with perfectly flat lying strata with not so much as a fault for over four miles of its length. This coast line is too grand to describe in words. The only extensive flat area discovered between Dundas Harbor and Maxwell Bay was a large area on the northwest shore of Croker Bay; most of the rest of the coastline dropped off sheer into the sea. Available charts show the icecap not extending along the coast west of 86°W but it was still with us when we turned back at 88°W. There were active glaciers all along this coast as far west as we went. Lancaster Sound was clear of ice west to Hobhouse Inlet, but from there on it was clogged apparently all the way across to Baffin Island

30 July 1946
C. H. Handley, Jr.

with pack ice. We had been in the ice but a short while when I saw my first ivory gulls - little fellows the size of kittiwakes, pure white, and with black bills and feet, easily distinguishable even at a considerable distance. They are the first of the really northern birds which I had hoped most to see. I've still got to see Ross's gulls and Wheatears. Seals of several kinds, some of them large, were abundant in the ice and were almost constantly in sight. Several large seals lying on ice floes were called walruses by the captain and everyone else, but as I could descern no tusks I have my doubts. Polar bear tracks were common ~~on~~ the fresh snow on the ice and at several places ~~you could~~ see where ~~the~~ a bear had pulled himself ~~up~~ onto the ice, walked across and ~~took~~ plunged to the water again on the other side. Fox tracks were also numerous. We proceeded 5 miles into the ice before we turned back, and found birds of all kinds more abundant there than in the open water. The ice cuts the swells and wave action

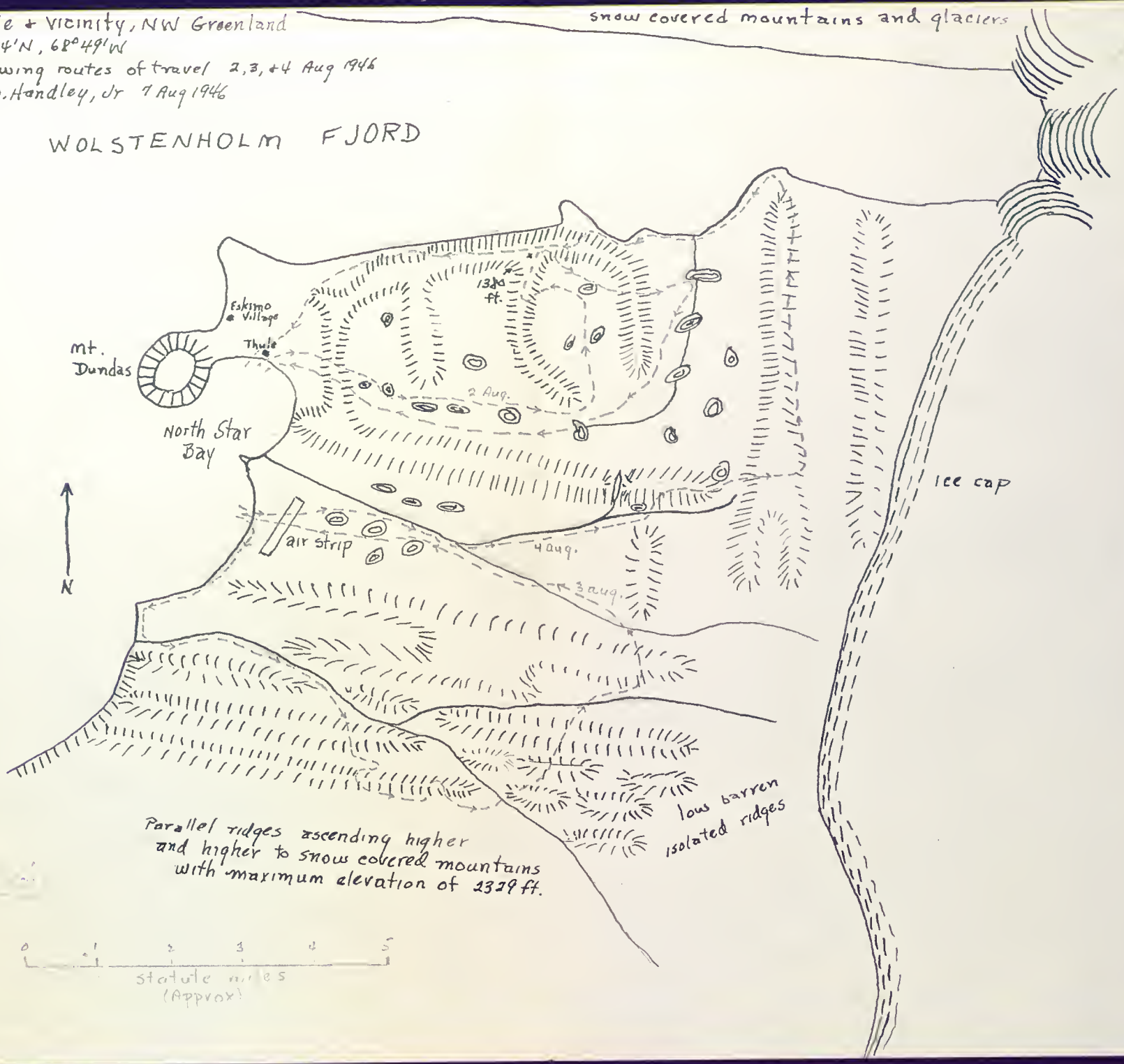
30 July 1946
C O Hundley, Jr.

and leaves the water in clear spots glassy smooth. The captain remarked that in arctic seas the best place to operate small sea planes was in the ice where they could take off much more easily from the smooth water of the leads than they could from the rough water outside the ice. The day was so clear that Baffin Island could be seen just as clearly as Devon even tho it was 40-50 mi. distant. The tops of its mountains seemed more rounded and less snowcovered than those of Devon. From a distance to the west, the southeast corner of Devon seemed white to the very water and scarce as birds were there it seems remarkable that we saw so many as we did. We received radioed instructions to return to Thule, so we were proceeding eastward thru Lancaster Sound at 11.5 knots when I turned in. We noted the following birds between Dundas Harbor and Blanley Inlet:

Brunnich's murre frequent all along the way 200 ft.

Fulmar - common all along the way but

Thule + Vicinity, NW Greenland
76° 34'N, 68° 49'W
Showing routes of travel 2, 3, + 4 Aug 1946
C.O. Handley, Jr 7 Aug 1946



Thule and vicinity, NW Greenland

Birds observed 1 Aug 1946 Thule & North Star Bay

Glaucous Gull	10
Kittiwake	300
Fulmar	50
Murre	50
Guillemot	10 (some carrying food)
Eider	6
Dovekie	2000+ (harbor mouth)
Arctic tern	10
Snow Bunting	25
Ringed Plover	2
Raven	1

U. S. S. WHITEWOOD (AN-63)
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

30 July 1946
C.D. Handley, Jr.
especially in the ice - 2000 est. - several flocks of more than 200.
1 Guillemot off Crimping Inlet. Several Kittiwakes and 1 Thayers Gull off Powell Inlet. Several Thayers Gulls off Stratton Inlet. 3 Ivory Gulls off Blanley Inlet, numerous polar bear tracks, fox tracks, numerous guillemots, Kittiwakes and Thayers Gulls.

Totals:

fulmar	2600+	Ivory gull	3
murre	200+	Thayers gull	15
guillemot	10	Kittiwake	200

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31 July 1946 Cape Warrender, SE Devon Is. to 2 nm, Baffin Bay

again today it was crystal clear and we had another good look at the SE coast of Devon, but I have described it adequately before. The glacier in Bethune Inlet was discharging actively and there were many large icebergs in the bay. We have seen that Greenland isn't the only place in the American Arctic (either has a producing icebergs)! I spent part of the day cleaning the seal skin. The blubber I cut from the skin must have weighed all of 50 pounds. No bird observations were made.

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1 August 1946 Thule, Greenland.
We dropped anchor in the harbor beside the Norton Sound about 1000. Al spent most of the day aboard the NS and at Thule trying to get some cooperation with our project. He finally got

1 Aug 1946
CO Handley, J

permission from the Danes for us to collect non-game and non-food species in the vicinity, but as for getting a boat to travel about the harbor he had no luck. There are said to be great rookeries of murres, guillemots and dovekies on the islands at the mouth of the fjord (Wolstenholme) but even with dozens of idle navy power boats, we cannot be spared a boat to visit them. I spent part of the day finishing up the seal skin, working in comfort on the open deck with my sleeves rolled up, 10° above the arctic circle! Using handlines baited with pork rind, quite a few of the soldiers and sailors caught peculiar looking big-mouthed fishes which were called sculpins by those which seemed to know. They were caught at 15-20 fathoms. The total population of Thule is 119, of which nine are Danes and the remainder Eskimos and Greenlanders (mixed white and Eskimo). The Eskimos mostly live in dirty, smelly, sod-covered wooden huts to the north of Mt. Dundas while the Danes live in clean, picturesque brightly painted houses on the south side of the peninsula. Every family has a team of dogs it seems, and all all appear to be very scrawny and mangy at this time of year when they are shedding. Most run wild to shift for themselves but the teams stick strictly together as an inseparable unit. The whole Eskimo community seems to be poor and not well cared for. The Eskimos at Dundas Harbor, on the other hand, seemed much better off, and as evidence of their prosperity, kept all their dogs carefully penned and well fed with fresh seal meat. I saw several Eskimos paddle by in their peculiar little one-man kayaks. About the most satisfactory way of telling the men from the women at a glance is by the fact that the men wear knee boots while the women wear hip boots. Dr. Gault helped Dr. Eisberg examine a bunch of the Eskimos and found their hair relatively dandruff-free and their persons smelling only of untanned skin clothing although they never take a bath.

(see appended list of birds)

2 Aug 1946
Cornhindley, J.

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. We were ashore from 0900 to 1700. We found the extensive valleys east of Thule mostly grassy moorland not unlike parts of Northern Scotland. There were many fresh water lakes and much muskeg. The icecap is between 15 and 10 miles inland from Thule and there are numerous snowbanks on the ridges between. Many of the lakes were still ice bound. The rocks are all sedimentary, shale and conglomerates predominating. Limestone, sandstone, and quartz are common. Outcrops are not common. The land is all gently rolling. The plants are mostly the same as we found on Devon but grasses are much more abundant and more widespread. There was some rabbit sign and a little fox sign, but no indication of lemmings. I was surprised at the relative scarcity of birds of all kinds. They seemed most concentrated about the village of Thule and snow buntings lived up to the name the mounties at Dundas gave them — "White English Sparrow". Tho I passed thru much marsh-land, I saw no shorebirds except 2 northern phalaropes and a

2 aug 1946
C. H. Handley, Jr.

transient flock of knots. Small land birds seemed most abundant in rocky areas along the ditches and creeks between lakes. As far as I am concerned the trip has been worthwhile even if we were to start back tomorrow, for I saw the birds I've most wanted to see, ever since I first started studying birds — Greenland wheatear. It always seemed to me to be one of the most exotic of N.A. birds and one which american ornithologists are least likely to see. Today I saw four family groups of wheatears — the young full grown but still sporting patches of down. They were among the most curious of birds we saw and several times individuals came from a long distance to inspect us at close range. Most birds seem remarkably wary. The alarm note of the wheatear sounds something like that of the Nd. yellow-thr, but is louder and sharper and a sharp whistle is injected after every few notes. They are noticeably thrush-like in form but the conspicuous white tail with black "T" (▲) and the tail wagging habit confound this resemblance.

2 Aug 1946
Continued by J.
They were noted in a variety of habitats. In the jumbled rocks atop high ridges and along rocky streambanks. Snowbuntings were noted in all habitats but were most numerous in moist areas where there were many jumbled rocks. Young were mostly full grown. Longspurs were numerous, mostly in marshy areas and most seemed to be still nesting - tho we collected one yg. almost full grown. I watched one brilliant male which had a mouthfull of insects for a long while hoping it would go to its nest, but I had to move on without locating it. An adult redpoll which we saw on a gravelly moraine at the village had forehead and throat red, and rump conspicuously white. It was pale enough so that it blended in perfectly with its grey gravel surroundings. The phalaropes were eating flies which had fallen on the surface of a pond. We saw two broods of eiders probably about two to three weeks old. Two officers from the Norton Sound spot one of the mother ducks and were shooting at the young for target practice.

2 aug. 1946
Cordelia I.

I found a Ptarmigan and a brood of 8 three da. old chicks in a marshy area. Though their camouflage was excellent they made no attempt to use it and ran away from me at a leisurely pace and I caught one with ease. They made no attempt to fly and I approached within 3 ft. of the female before she finally flew. The chicks were continually peeping and the hen was clucking. The hen's body was dark brown above and dark brown on the breast, the belly was buffy and the primaries, secondaries, and lesser wing coverts were white. red spot over eye. I climbed to the high cliffs overlooking the head of Wolstenholme Fjord and had a beautiful view of it. Three large glaciers discharge into its head and it is choked with floating ice. There is continuous noise like the distant discharge of a shotgun as the ice cracks at the foot of the glaciers. Back in the moorland the quite is like an eternal void. From a distance these moorlands

2 aug 1946
Cobbandley - P.
seem somber brown and the ridges interrupting them brownish black, as tho all had been singed with a giant torch. Closer up of course the green of grasses and the bright colors of flowers are noticable. I found the trout-like "char" abundant in one of the larger lakes, and the cold, deep running, but narrow stream feeding it was alive with small char up to 10 in. long. They looks just like trout to me and I caught two small ones by hand in shallow water. It snowed in flurries most of the day and was noticably colder on the moors 500 to 1000 ft. up than at sea level. I expect I walked 10 miles today. The following birds were observed during the day: ✓~~Black~~ Red-thr. Loon 2 (sound like geese talking)
✓Knot 15
✓Guillemot 5
✓Lapland Longspur 8 (3,1,1,3)
✓Snow Bunting 83 (10,3,3,2,25,10,15,5,5,5)
✓Greater (?) Redpoll 1
✓Kittiwake 25
✓Greenland Wheatear 7 (2,2,1,2)
✓Kellogg's (?) Ptarmigan 1♀ with 8 chicks
✓Long tailed jaeger 1 (light phase) flying over inland pond
✓Northern Eider 14 (1♀ with 8 yg, 1♀ with 4 yg)
✓Glaucous Gull 11 (on inland pond)
✓Old squaw 8 (5,3)
Northern Phalarope 2 (♂,♀)
(~~Long~~ Dunlin)
(arctic Tern ?)

139 news item taken from "Boston Traveler" July 46

"Capture of Nazis Die-Hards Seen Mission of Secret 'Operation X'"

"Swedes say Germans Hiding in Greenland.

"By the popular pastime of adding together two and two, many in Boston yesterday satisfied themselves that the "Secret Mission" on which a U.S. Navy task force departed from Boston recently was to round up 150 Nazis still holding out in Greenland.

"Swedish sources yesterday published a report that the force of German military die-hards had entrenched itself on an ice covered plateau northwest of Angmansalik about 200 miles inland in Greenland. This is the destination of two ice-breakers and a seaplane tender that sailed out of Boston recently, Bostonians deducted.

"Navy Silent.

"The Navy did nothing to discredit the deduction. As a matter of fact a high ranking officer in the Bureau of Naval Operations in Washington engendered a general suspicion that the vessels had sailed northward on a mission more important than for gathering data on the weather.

"'The departure of that task force is a top diplomatic secret' this Washington officer said. What could be so vital diplomatically, about a band of worn out germans in the wastes of Greenland, is mystifying. Now if those men were Russians, that would be something else again.

"A Commander Storre of the Royal Canadian Navy disclosed that it had two observers along with the task force. He said that the observers were not weather experts.

"'It's really a U.S. Navy job,' Storre said. 'We don't know much about it. Sorry we can't help you more, my lad.'

"The Danish consulate in Washington was not helpful, but neither did it deny the existance of the germans in Greenland.

"'It could happen,' said an attache. 'Strange things have happened in this war. However, we have no official or unofficial news of that. If it is so, it is probably recorded in Copenhagen.'

"The Navy units of the task force headed on what was listed as 'Operation X' from Boston, where the vessels were made ready for the far northern cruise. The departure was cloaked in secrecy similar to that of wartime, the Navy here explaining only that 'the cruise is a training voyage to amplify existing knowledge of navigational and weather conditions.'

"A spokesman from the Boston office of public relations division of the First Naval District asserted he could not even discuss Operation X'. He even requested that the code name of the venture be withheld.

"The task force is under the command of Capt. Richard H. Cruzen, U.S.N., who was second in command of Admiral Richard E. Byrd's Antarctic Expedition in 1939-40."

Germans and Russians are two nationalities we haven't seen on this expedition. It just goes to show how much a newspaper reporter can make out of nothing.

3 Aug. 1946
coHandley, Jr.

3 Aug 1946 - Thule, Greenland - As has been the case for several days, today was clear as a crystal and relatively warm. We steamed back into the harbor in the morning after pumping the water out of our fuel tanks and trying to help home in the PBM from Goose Bay which was lost yesterday. We sailed out into Smith Sound last night to try to get radio contact with the plane, which could not contact the Norton Sound because of the high mountains surrounding the harbor. It seems that the plane took off from Goose Bay, Labrador, bearing mail and clothing supplies for the task force, but it had been unable to contact the Norton Sound and didn't even know for sure that it was at Thule — a poor way to start a long trip. The plane contacted the southbound Atule in Davis Strait and soon afterwards ran into bad weather which lay like a blanket obscuring all the Greenland coast. To top it off, and overcast blocked out the sun much of the time. The navigator got frequent sun shots but for some reason was not able to calculate drift. The radar went out and the radio director and compass were not working - They were lost and good, and their gasoline supply was dwindling. They had still been unable to contact the Norton Sound and their fuel reserves were not sufficient to reach Goose Bay, so they decided to make a run for the Atule. They jettisoned the mail and supplies in an effort to gain air speed and conserve fuel.

3 Aug 1946
C. Handley Jr.

After an hour of flying south the radio operator accidently picked up the Norton Sound while trying to contact the army's "Crystal 2" station on Baffin Island. So they flew northward again until they calculated that they were north of Thule and still they were in bad weather and had lost contact again with the Norton Sound. In the meantime we were steaming to sea and the Norton Sound dispatched one of its PBMs in perfect weather from Thule. We were unable to make any contact with the plane but could hear their conversation with the rescue PBM as it approached them. Before our plane contacted them, they had found a break in the clouds and could see water and icebergs thru it. Having no contact with anyone and thinking they were north of Thule already they began circling the hole in the clouds so they would at least have a place to land when their gasoline ran out. Our plane found them circling thus over Melville Bay south of Thule and brought them safely in with fuel for another hour and a half of flying. That was really one scared crew. As far as I'm concerned the age of flying hasn't come to stay yet. The crew of the Coastal Patrol was all demoralized and angry over the loss of the mail, but getting the crew of the plane thru safely was more important than the mail certainly. This afternoon I went ashore at the landing strip beach at 1300 and skirted the beach south to the shore cliffs and then turned inland along a good sized glacial stream which

3 Aug 1946
CO Hendley, J.
I followed for about 3 or 4 miles. Then I turned southward and crossed two ridges and then went eastward again for 2 or 3 miles till I hit the glacial stream again. Then I crossed two ridges northeastward until I hit the glacial stream emptying into North Star Bay near the air strip. I followed this down and reached the beach at 2200, having covered perhaps 15 or 20 of the most barren miles of my experience - a total of 38 birds seen inland. along the beach were frequent tidal pools about which there were a few ringed plovers, evidently finished nesting (Washburn caught a few days old chick near the air strip which attempted to escape by running rather than by hiding). There was a flock of 52 eiders along the beach, all females or females and full grown young, all able to fly. One female of the flock had a brood of 2 (day old) young which she conveyed out into the bay. Shells of clams and mussels were very abundant along the beach. On the cliffs at the south end of the beach kittiwakes seemed to be nesting near the top, a thousand feet sheer drop above the water. The country along the glacial stream was extremely barren, the monotony of bare rock and gravel only occasionally broken by a small sparcely vegetated flat. usually there didn't seem to be a single living thing as far as you could see. The two parallel valleys to the south were virtually the same and it wasn't until I ascended the ridge paralleling the stream flowing past the air strip that I found birds and frequent or abundant vegetation again. In these

3 Aug 1946
C D Findley Jr.

barren ridges and valleys the only birds I saw were occasional snow buntings and ringed plovers — nothing else. Along a knife-edged cliff atop one of the ridges I observed droppings of ptarmigans and droppings possibly of a gyrfalcon, containing the bones of snow buntings and hares. I saw one hare in the southern most valley I visited. It was at the base of a crumpled rock cliff and from a distance appeared to be pure white. Against the dark background it stood out like a sore thumb. When I began to approach it, it began a leisurely ascent of the cliff and disappeared over the top of the ridge before I could come within shotgun range. The region where I saw the hare was practically devoid of vegetation. In this same region I found several very old skulls of the musk ox, which was exterminated in this particular region a number of years ago. Farther to the south than I went the mountains were 75 to 100 % covered with patchy snow. Even where I was there were frequent large snow banks. Snow banks in blind depressions atop ridges melt to form isolated ponds without inlets or outlets. At this time of the year these banks are about 1/3 melted. All the region south of the ridge overlooking the airstrip valley appears to be the same as the region I have just described — barren and desolate. On the ridge overlooking the airstrip, at 1500 ft elevation and amid the sparsely vegetated boulder strewn countryside I observed a lemming, which from its action

3 Aug 1946 (cont'd) obviously had young nearby. The broad valley in which the airstrip is located is traversed by frequently braided glacial streams, dotted with numerous small lakes and contains much muskeg and luxuriant growths of grass. About the center of the valley I found three family groups of long-tailed jaegers, each containing two adults and one young. They kept up a continuous gull-like chatter and screaming as they circled and wheeled about and displayed their long streamer-like tail to best advantage. All of the young could fly well tho one was still covered with down. The other two were grayish. I collected one of the adults and found it even more beautiful in the hand than I had observed it thru the binoculars. I imagine it is one of the most beautiful of northern birds.

~~4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland.~~ List of birds seen 3 Aug follows:

✓ Ringed Plover 7 (1,1,3,1,1)
✓ Northern Eider 67 (52♂, 1♀ w/12 yn., 3♂)
✓ Glaucous Gull 7 (1,4,2)
✓ Snow Bunting 25 (1,2,2,2,3,2,2,2,2,4,1,2)
✓ Long-tailed Jaeger 9 (3,3,3; ea. group with one yn.)
✓ Sanderling 1
✓ Lapland Longspur 18 (singing in muskeg)
Rittiwake 25

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4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. During the morning we made a short cruise of the harbor and collected several guillemots, murres, and rittiwakes. One of the guillemots which had traces of the white winter plumage and had the feet and inside of bill pale was found to be infested with tape worms. At 1300 Mr. Hunter and I landed at the airstrip beach and proceeded inland with the intention of skirting the ridge to the north of the airstrip valley and

4 Aug 1946
COHudley, Jr.

returning to the Skuk landing by 2100. In the valley I collected a Baird's Sandpiper and observed a fine pair of golden plovers, but am not sure that either of the species were nesting on the spot. Several Lapland Longspurs were noted gathering food. Further inland in the broad north and south valley I noted several glaucous gulls, several black-tht. loons, and a pair of knots with four full grown young near a pond. An old squaw which I saw apparently could not fly, and indeed most that I have seen on this trip, at least 50%, were in that plight. I noticed a flock of 25 snow buntings, the largest flock I've seen. Most are evidently thru nesting and are molting to the winter plumage, and the young are full grown but in most cases still in family groups. Occasional single birds indicate that some nesting is still going on. I discovered an old bunting nest composed of feathers and grasses in a crevice which I first mistook for a fox den, among boulders on a north facing talus slope. Most longspurs still are feeding small young, many evidently still in the nest, but I have noticed several family groups of full grown young. These have a distinctly dirty or even yellowish appearance. When we were about to turn westward toward Skuk (1730) the fog suddenly rolled in from the sea and enveloped everything in a thick blanket and limited visibility to about ten yards or even less at times. When the fog set in we were in the maze of valley lakes and muskegs and disconnected

4 Aug 1946
Cockburn Bay, J.

hills, but I was confident that I could make my way to the ridge overlooking the air strip valley and follow the crest of that down to Thule. I was in strange country, so there were no landmarks to go by. Hunter was not accustomed to walking and was already tired, but I pulled him along as we ascended a high, very broken, ridge and then turned left along its crest. The valley to the right of us seemed too deep, tho of course we couldn't see the bottom, and the breeze from the right was very chill – that puzzled me, but I still thought I was on the right track until we encountered large snow banks on the sides of the ridge. I was quite sure there were none on the ridge. I thought I was following that large – we were good and lost – the second time I've ever been lost in my life. After another hour of steady walking along the ridge, pulling harder and harder at Hunter all the time, I suddenly heard gulls crying and we descended the end of the ridge to a bay. Then, for the first time in three hours, I knew for sure where we were – Wolstenholme Fjord, just below its head. I knew it had to be the fjord because it had a great deal of floating ice – more than would have appeared in North Star Bay – and because to have travelled southward or southwestward as we would have had to to reach North Star Bay, we would have crossed one or more sizable glacial streams, and we hadn't even crossed a small stream during our trek. Evidently

4 aug 1946
Confidential

I became lost when the first fog set in and the course I took was ninety degrees off. The chill breeze we had felt was blowing off the ice cap! Having thus reached a familiar spot, tho I had never been there before we proceeded westward, skirting close along the coast. I knew it would be several hours shorter to cut directly across the inlets to Thule, but I dared not go inland again for fear of getting lost worse than ever, so we proceeded along the shore, now and again having to scale high bluffs to get around sheer cliffs or going up avalanche slopes for the same reason. On one I swore I'd never climb an avalanche again if I got up this one safely. Even when we ascended high ridges (1000-1500 feet), we had to descend to the bottom again once we were around the cliffs to make sure that we didn't lose the coast. Normally the trip along the coast would have taken not more than two hours, but Hunter was so dead tired that it took a great deal of moral persuasion to keep him going, and even at that he had to rest every hundred feet or so when we were climbing. We finally arrived at Thule at 0200, where after a lively but fruitless attempt to converse with the Eskimos with the intent of borrowing a boat to get to the Northwind. The Northwind's motor whale boat manned by Al, Doc. Sault, and Moreau pulled into the landing. Even at 2 AM they were still

visiting the several beaches hoping to find us. This was one time it sure felt good to be back on the Northwind again. I discovered several things of interest during our trip thru the fog. I observed several white hares among the boulders of the high ridges and saw many droppings and what seemed to be forms scratched in the dirt. All the rabbits were quite wild. Evidently the hares resort to these boulder fields in the summertime for protection, even the food is very scarce in such areas. In the winter when their color is an asset, they are safe to descend to the lowlands. Certainly at this time of the year their color puts them in eternal danger. We observed ptarmigans and saw many droppings in the same areas where rabbit sign was abundant. In an area of muskeg along the fjord we encountered several parasitic jaegers which evidently had nests yet nearby. There was much screaming, and the birds ran about on the ground with their wings extended and their tails expanded much in the manner of hawks and owls which employ the same ruse to attract intruders away from their young. As the birds whirled at relatively close range, the central spike of the tail was very conspicuous. I collected one of the adults. Gulls and eiders were numerous among the ice of the fjord. And I estimated 200 eiders seen in

4 Aug 1946 Godhavn, Greenland

flocks ranging up to 100 individuals. They were probably northern eiders. The following bird observations were made during the day:

also found several old caribou bones.

Red-thr. Loon	3 (1,1,1)	Greenland Wheatear	1
Glaucous Gull	40 (1,1,10,1,2,25)	Knot	6
Lapland Longspur	12 (1,1,10)	Old squaw	1
Baird's Sandpiper	1	Kellogg's Ptarmigan	2
Golden Plover	2	Parasitic jaeger	3
Long-tailed jaeger	1	Northern Eider	500
Snow Bunting	64 (12,2,5,25,5,3,2,4,3,3)	Kittiwake	300

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5 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Today I packed up my stuff, said goodbye to the fellows on the Northwind and moved over to the Norton Sound. Reason - there is so much navy staff coming aboard the Northwind that there is not enough room for two fish and Wildlife men aboard. The scuttlebutt has it that the Northwind is going to try to make a run thru the Northwest passage to Seattle while the Norton Sound returns to its home port of Norfolk, Va. by 1 Sept. The concensus of opinion aboard the Norton Sound is that the Northwind will never get thru because of its excessive draught. The few ships which have been thru have been of shallow draught and even they had trouble with shoal waters. According to a navy Lt., who has been in these waters for 7 years on a 50 ft. sloop and who is presently at Thule with his boat, none of these ships will get out without ice breaker help unless they get out in the next two weeks because at that time the wind changes from prevailing NE to NW and heavy pack ice begins to

move down the sounds from the arctic ocean and into Baffin Bay. The Norton Sound is supposed to go to Dundas Harbor, send out air reconnoissance as far west as possible ahead of the Northwind, and then proceed south, stopping at Argentia, Newfoundland on the way. I was very disappointed at having to leave the Northwind for I liked the ship and the fellows on it, besides wanting to make the trip westward. My trip to the arctic has been disappointing, mainly because we have stopped in no uninhabited territories. Wherever there are Eskimos the game has all been depleated and even small birds are scarce because many of the Eskimo dogs have to forage for themselves during the summer. Tonight I talked to Dr. Semons of the Army QM who had gone ashore at Etah from the Whitewood last week. He said that there were few signs of the abandoned settlement which was located on a low bench in a narrow fjord. Vegetation was much more lush than at Thule and all kinds of wildlife were more numerous. The sides of the fjord were in the form of a well-vegetated talus slope leveling off to a more sparcely vegetated table land at about 1000 ft. Dovekies or "little auks" were nesting by the "millions" on the slope, and several were caught when they refused to leave their eggs. Eiders were numerous but no geese were noticed. Hares and foxes were numerous and walruses were common on ice floes in Smith Sound. We heard tonight that the

5 Aug 1946
Continued

mail plane dispatched this morning had arrived safely at Goose Bay. I am quartered with the crew of the plane that was lost. We weighed anchor at about 2300 tonight and headed on a westward course.

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6 Aug 1946 North Baffin Bay and entrance to Smith Sound - course SW. Overcast most of the day and wind and rain made bird observation not worthwhile, so day was spent completing notes of past few days. We learned that the mail plane had sunk on a reef at Goose Bay, and only sometime later that the mail had been recovered before this event occurred. Philipots Island and Cape Warrender were in view before midnight.

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7 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. The day was spent alternately drifting and heading west at a slow speed until by midnight we were approx. off Hobhouse Inlet. We found the entrance to Dundas Harbor blocked by an ice floe so it was not worthwhile to go in there. The white wood arrived early in the morning and the Northwind about noon; both were soon dispatched, I suppose to look for harbors or to make an ice reconnoissance. The good weather of the past two weeks has been largely wasted by indecision and loitering. As a matter of fact this whole operation has been characterized by indecision. For example of laziness, the supply ships at Thule are still only partially unloaded because operations have been carried on for only 8 hours per day. For the past two weeks we have enjoyed the

est weather the arctic could possibly offer, and during that time not one blessed thing has been accomplished by the task force. The army engineers are working three eight hour shifts on the airstrip which is to be used to supply the permanent weather station to be set up at Thule. Their instructions are to come back with the supply ships on 1 Sept., or if construction is far enough advanced to be completed before the freeze-up to remain and finish the strip and be flown out. The strip will be 4,000 yd. gravel surface and will be best for winter landings. Tonight after many hours of preparation, one of our PBM's finally took off for a flight over the magnetic pole on Boothia peninsula. Twenty-three minutes later it was back again having run into bad weather conditions. The port wing was smashed against the side of the ship during the process of hoisting it back onto the hanger deck.

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8 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. The whole day was spent drifting in thick fog in the center of the sound. Thru occasional holes in the fog, Devon and Baffin Islands seemed to be about equally distant. Al made an observation on the Snowbunting at Dundas Harbor which I have forgotten to record previously. A glaucous gull was flying along the inland edge of a coastal bench when suddenly it was

8 aug 1946
continuing

accosted by a snow bunting. After a flurry of wings, the gull, monstrous beside the little bunting, reversed its course. Then after flying a few yards it seemed to change its mind and turned and continued its previous course, ignoring the attacks of the bunting. The glaucous gull, incidentally, is observed about as often inland as along the beach and is the only gull we have seen inland. The Thayers gull is commonest along the beaches and is frequent in sight of land. The kittiwake is abundant everywhere off shore.

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9 aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. Today was another day of fog and snow and alternate slow progress and drifting out in the middle of the sound. All thru the morning we moved west at about 5 K. until by 1345 we had come in sight of the ice fields across the whole width of the sound at 88°18' W Longitude. The rest of the day we drifted. The northwind approached from the west at noon and blew to about two or three mi. to our port. We are theoretically still awaiting weather good enough for the magnetic pole flight. In the middle of Lancaster Sound we may wait the rest of the summer for that. When its calm its foggy, when its clear its rough, and they have enough trouble hoisting the PBM's on and off the ship even in calm sea. In the first place they are attempting to use the Morton sound for an aircraft carrier

9 aug 1946
CO Handley: I
when she was never intended to be. Actually
she is supposed to be set up in a sheltered
harbor to refuel and repair land based
seaplanes not carry the planes around
with her and launch them in the middle
of an ocean. What they need here is not
seaplanes, but land based B-17s or 29s to
do the reconnoissance work. They have the
range, fuel supplies, and altitude equipment
to do it. PBMs and SOCs don't. The following
bird notes were made.

0900 off Powell Inlet - 5 fulmars, 1 murre
0915 7 fulmars, 1 murre
0930 8 fulmars
0945 23 fulmars
1100 2 fulmars, 1 guillemot (Stratton Inlet)
1115 5 fulmars
1130 4 fulmars, 1 murre
1345 Long. 88°18'W - 8 fulmars, 5 murres (Frobisher Harbour)
1400 10 fulmars, 5 murres

Total: fulmar 72; murre 13; guillemot 1

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10 aug. 1946 Lancaster Sound. There was thick
fog until 1900, which cleared completely by
2100. We were underway on a 090 heading at
5K until 1900, then drifted rest of day, about
15 miles off Devon Coast. I could see the west
shore of Maxwell Bay in the evening - that's the
most easterly point I have seen. It appeared to
be steep walled, just as the coastline to the east.
As far as I could tell the icecap seemed to
recede away from the coast just east of
Maxwell Bay but having no charts in my
possession, could not mark the exact spot.
During the morning a low of 30° was reached
which froze a thick coating of ice all over

10 Aug 1946
Cornwallis Id

the rigging. The temp. rose to 36° in the afternoon. Wind 15 K. The northwind was standing by at a considerable distance all day, and it was rumored that the whitewood had found a suitable harbor on Baffin Island. After the fog cleared the air crews were alerted for the pole flight at 0200, May. But they stayed up for nothing for by 0200 the sky had grown rough and the fog closed in again. The following bird observations were made:

1700 5 fulmars, 3 murres
1715 6 fulmars, 1 murre
1900 3 fulmars, 1 murre, 1 ruddy turnstone flew south across ship, circling once and calling all the while.
1915 4 fulmars, 1 murre, 1 kittiwake
2100 10 fulmars, 3 murres
2115 15 fulmars, 1 murre

Totals: fulmar 43; murre 9; Kittiwake 1; Ruddy Turnstone 1

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11 August 1946 Lancaster Sound. The fifth day of bringing in Lancaster Sound. The mounties at Dundas Harbor say that March, April, and May are the best months for travelling on Devon for there are then neither the blackness nor harsh temp. of winter and there still remains the snow for good travelling. This year April and May were remarkably clear and free of ppt., but there were many storms in March and June was rainy and foggy. June is the month of thaw and the arrival of most summer birds from the south. If an Eskimo family produces only girls, usually a girl baby is traded for a boy from a more fortunate family since a boy is considered a necessity to care for the parents in their old age.

11 aug 1946
CO Handley, Jr.

11 Aug. 1946 Lancaster Sound and Admiralty Inlet south to Victor Bay, Baffin Island. Our position this morning was about the same as yesterday - near the edge of the icepack. It snowed hard all morning and covered the exposed portions of the ship with several inches. Wind 5 kt; visibility 5 miles to 0. We were laying to until noon and then, following the Northwind, we edged our way south thru the long strands of ice toward Admiralty Inlet on the north end of Baffin Island. The entrance to the inlet was reached at 1430 and we were off Victor Bay at 1745. The RCMP station at Arctic Bay is just across the peninsula from Victor Bay. We came into the inlet to get Mr. Campbell of the Coast and Geodetic Survey and Hale and Thurell of the Navy Hydrographic Office ashore to make a magnetic station. They were to be transferred to the Northwind for this mission while the Norton Sound proceeded east to the anchorage which the Westwood is reputed to have discovered at Jay Bay on the northwest coast of Bylot Island. I decided that if I could be transferred at least temporarily, back to the Northwind, I would have a much better chance of getting ashore again than if I remained on the Norton Sound. Therefore I went to look for Comdr. Mini the personnel officer of the task force. The messenger on the staff deck said he was at supper, but I said it was urgent that I see him at once, so he left his supper to see me. He passed on my request to the Commodore and it was approved so I hopped the boat over to the Northwind, having time enough only to grab my toilet kit and an extra pair of socks. The sea was so rough going over to the Northwind that the power boat frequently tilted 45° - as it was over a mile it was a pretty rough ride. Haley was the first person I saw on the Northwind - as per usual, and everybody was surprised to see me. As the party to go ashore decided Dundas Harbor would serve their purpose

11 aug 1946
C O Handley, Jr.

better than Arctic Bay, we set out immediately on a northward course, having thus wasted a whole day coming south. The weather tonight was as bad as any we have encountered, still wind 35K, water with big swells, whitecaps, long wind streaks, and flying spray. I went to bed in my old bunk again. The north coast of Baffin Island east of Admiralty Inlet is mostly sheer limestone cliffs with flat lying strata as is seen west of Dundas Harbor on Devon Island. The summits of the tableland are snowcovered, but not iccapped I believe. I don't remember seeing any glaciers. At one place I noticed several well formed and conspicuous rock chimneys atop one of the plateaus. The following bird observations were made during the day:

1030 laying to 18 fulmars, 3 murres
1045 5 fulmars
1111 10 fulmars, 1 murre
1115 10 fulmars, 1 kittiwake
1200 underway south 5 fulmars
1245 6 fulmars
1300 1 kittiwake, 3 fulmars
1315 4 fulmars
1330 6 fulmars
1430 12 fulmars (entrance of admiralty Inlet)
1445 25 fulmars
1600 15 fulmars, 1 Thayers gull
1615 30 fulmars, 1 Thayers Gull
1630 10 fulmars
1730 10 fulmars (Elwin Inlet)
1745 15 fulmars, 1 Thayers gull (Victor Bay)
2100 10 fulmars (underway north)
2115 7 fulmars
2215 23 fulmars

Totals:
fulmar 220
kittiwake 2
Thayers Gull 3
Brünnichs Murre 4

12 Aug 1946
cc Handley, J.

12 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound on approach to Dundas Harbor and anchored in Dundas Harbor, Devon Island

We awoke to a bright sunny day but a heavy sea. We arrived in the harbor mouth at 0945 and were anchored at 1015. We had early chow and thanks to the cooperation of Northwind and Capt. Adams, I went ashore in the first boat out at the north end of the harbor before noon. The thick ice which had filled the north end on our previous visits was now scattered throughout the harbor. Distance from ship to head of harbor - at least three miles, total length - 4 miles. On the right of the barren till plain with its myriad braided streams were several good size lakes and relatively luxuriant vegetation. There were 5 snow geese on the far side of the first pond we approached but they flew long before we could maneuver into gun range. There were several loons on this same pond. In flight, and often on the water too, the red-throated loon keeps up a continuous cackling, sounding very much like that of guinea hens, and audible for a great distance. ~~They or~~ From below, they show all white except for the dark throat. All are still in fine nuptial plumage, and I saw no immatures. Side view in flight is also very characteristic, but I suppose common to all loons.

I followed around the edge of the mountain on the right hand side of the valley to the first canyon from the east and then ascended to the top of the mountain for a fine view of the harbor. The foothills I found rough with extensive boulder fields, but well vegetated with mosses and grasses. Rabbit sign was scattered but periodically abundant. The boulder fields where the hares seem most abundant are so rough that you can't watch for the hares because you have to watch every step you take to keep your footing. Ptarmigan sign was also

scattered thru the same territory. Above the boulder strewn foothills was a broad grassy table and then avalanche slopes to the summit which was about two or three hundred yards broad in most places. The southeast side of the mountain dropped off steeply into a canyon which opened into Dundas Harbor. On the summit and upper slopes there was little vegetation and frequent snowbanks, mostly just bare gravel and small stones. This bare ground was all thawed and soft to your shoe tops, except on the very summit where it was too cold for thawing. The soft muchyness of most of the ground I have encountered in the arctic is no different from what you would find after a Spring thaw in Virginia. From the time I left the foothills until I returned - a full three hours - I saw not a living thing, except plants. At one place I saw grass which had miraculously pushed thru and was blooming in ice an inch thick. While atop the mountain I observed a cloud phenomenon new to me. I was looking southwest toward the sun when it became obscured by a billowy white cumulus cloud. Then there floated across the white cloud two smaller clouds colored like oil slicks exactly. Not in orderly rainbow fashion but all mixed up. Capt. Dorsey said they were small alticumulus clouds probably and the coloring might be refracted light from a 22° halo. It was something new to me. I fought a vicious 35 to 40 knot wind ascending the mountain and couldn't get away from it all day. There was no protection from it anywhere - it blew around corners and down sheer

cliffs. Probably it was what fliers call a williwaugh wind. It made the whole day miserable. The glacial plain itself is completely barren of life. Foxes are evidently numerous around its edges and there are some signs of lemmings. I saw a pure white gull near the glacier which was the size of a kittiwake - about the right size for an iceland gull. There were a hundred old squaws at the head of the bay which is very shallow. Most were unable to fly and seven were collected. The following notes were made during the day:

0915 12 kittiwakes, 20 fulmars (approaching Dundas Harbor)
0930 3 murres, 15 fulmars
0945 1 Thayer's gull, 15 fulmars (harbor mouth)
1000 10 Thayer's gulls, 20 fulmars
1015 5 Thayer's gulls, 2 kittiwakes, 1 glaucous gull (at anchor)

Hill plain and mountains north of harbor: Red-thr. loon 2, No. Eider 4 (♀), glaucous gull 62 (11, 25, 1, 25), snow goose 5, old squaw 100, snow bunting 35, Lapland longspur 1, "peep" sandpiper 10.

Totals:

kittiwake	14	snow bunting	35
Thayer's gull	16	Lapland longspur	1
glaucous gull	63	Red-thr. loon	4
fulmar	65	No. Eider	4
Brunnich's murre	3	snow goose	5
"peep" sandpiper	10	old squaw	100

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13 Aug. 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Island.

Today we were put ashore on the point at the west side of the harbor entrance and proceeded westward along the coast as far as the edge of Croker Bay. Along the west shore of the harbor we found a good colony of gulls on a small cliff. Apparently it was about half and half

13 Aug 1946
C O Handley Jr

glaucous and Thayer's gulls, about 25 pairs each. The young were about half grown. On a cliff around the point we found another colony of glaucous gulls on a ledge about 500 feet sq. No more than 8 adults were seen and there were at least 5 half grown young. Several times the gulls came in with their crops so gorged with food that the distension was very conspicuous. They were very alert. When I returned from the west in the evening I was careful to approach out of sight of the ledge. When still half a mile distant I showed myself around a point and noted that the only adult gull on the ledge was facing away from me. Within a matter of seconds after I showed myself it came screaming from the ledge. Soon there were several others and they all began to dive on me. They would tower high above me and then come down in a 45° dive with such speed that the wind in their wings made a surprisingly loud noise. When a few feet above me they suddenly swerved up again at 90°. On the point where we were set ashore there were dozens of walrus skulls, most of them intact except for the lack of tusks of course. There were also some bear, seal, white whale, and dog remains. Along the coast the terrain was mostly hard packed gravel or small stones and very easy walking. We saw a flock of 25 guillemots feeding near the point. Along the beach, birds, except snow buntings, were very scarce. Just after I left at about two miles east of Croker Bay, I discovered two

Aug 1949
Hagley, J.

horned larks, a bright adult and an immature. I missed two shots at the adult unfortunately but secured the immature. according to our available literature these are the first horned larks recorded north of Lancaster Sound. I left the beach and ascended a lovely little valley just out of a story book. Behind its entrance to the beach thru a narrow canyon, the valley broadened to an average of 10-15 yards, with sheer avalanche slopes rising sharply from either side to the very summits of the mountains. Its little stream wound thru grassy or willow carpeted meadows to successively higher and higher levels until finally I reached a point where the avalanches had overlapped from either side to completely envelope the valley floor. I debated whether I should go further, but hoping this might be the forbidding gates to a mecca just beyond, I continued on. Sure enough, after a few hundred yards over the rocks, I came out again into the open valley, prettier than ever. Finally it opened onto a broad grassy meadow several square miles in extent and overlooking Croker Bay. The view I had of Croker Bay was breath taking. There laying below me, land for miles and miles to the west, was a broad coastal plain with thousands of lakes, lakes of all sorts: big lakes, little lakes, round lakes, square lakes; long lakes, short lakes. There was real tundra land at last. In my beautiful valley I had seen no bird except snow buntings; tho tracks, droppings and molted feathers of ptarmigan were abundant.

3 Aug 1961
C. Lindsley Jr.

There was much sign of rabbit and fox and there were fresh fox tracks in the mud along the stream. I found the mandible of some large herbivore embedded and partially exposed in the creek bank. In the large meadow at the head of the valley I didn't see a thing, so I descended into Croker Bay with high hopes of ending the day with a lot of birds. I figured that all of Devon Island couldn't be as barren and devoid of wildlife as the region about Dundas Harbor. If there ever birds anywhere on Devon, they must be at Croker Bay. On my trek down into the lakes and back around the point toward Dundas I saw one Lapland Longspur and six pairs of red-throated loons! also a flock of eight small birds which may have been redpolls. Back at the point, waiting for the boat to come for us, we saw at close range a few harp seals moving out of the harbor. Al saw several large groups before I arrived. Most were males and their black face masks were conspicuous when they rose out of the water to look around. The black patches on their backs showed when they dived. Al saw some playing which rode out of the water and flipped over backwards. Several persons saw a raven which passed close to the ship during the day, and it was reported to us by at least half a dozen different persons. The marines brought us one which they shot at their camp. Dr. Sault brought

13 Aug 1949
C O'Handley, J.
in a large musk-ox skull which he found about a mile east of the RCMP sta. It was so fresh that the meat tissues adhering to it were still red. Its horns had been sawed off. The mounties say that none have been seen or killed since they came here last Sept. They call the harp seal, "jar". The following bird observations were made.

Glaucous gull (colony 25 pr)(colony 2 pr), 2, 5, 3,		15
Thayer's gull (colony 25 pr)		50
Snow Bunting 5, 3, 15		23
guillemot		25
Lapland Longspur 1	Redpoll (?) 8	
Red-th. Loon 12 (6 pr)	Fulmar 10,000 (long strings flocks ozshore)	
Murre 10	Raven 1	
horned lark 2	harp seal 100	

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14 Aug 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Island.
after my recent fruitless trips and especially the one to Croker Bay yesterday I have begun to wonder just what the score is on birdlife hereabouts. Is this land really barren of birds or have they gone south already. Summer is rapidly waning; temp. down to 28° tonight and frosts every night, and wildflowers mostly dead and brown except the yellow Papaver. At home in the states when the summer residents leave in the fall they are replaced by birds from further north. Here the days of fall find beautiful meadows and inviting mudflats and beaches bare for with the summer birds gone there are none to replace them. That is my explanation of why you can walk for three hours or more without seeing

14 Aug 1966
C.D. Shadbolt

a single bird. To prove this point I spent the day making a thorough census of the birds of the peninsula between Dundas Harbour and the RCMP sta. Compared with the census of 23 July in the same area this is significant. On the earlier date the breeding season for small land birds was just ending and most were still in family groups. Sea birds had of course already finished nesting and were equally abundant on both dates. So were gulls which were still in the midst of nesting.

23 July:		14 Aug:	
American Brant	12		
King Eider	8		
Northern Eider	12	Northern Eider	1
Old squaw	9		
Red-thr Loon	1	Red-thr. Loon	4
Snow Bunting	38	Snow Bunting	48 (in flocks up to 15)
Lapland Longspur	3		
Ringed plover	14	Ringed Plover	3
Baird's Sandpiper	9		
parasitic jaeger	2		
Glaucous Gull	4	Glaucous Gull	5
Thayer's Gull	55	Thayer's Gull	50
Fulmar	300		
		Murre	1
		Guillemot	15
		Raven	1

Ducks and other water birds are much scarcer now than before and all the eiders are females and young where before nineteenths were males. Guillemots are more conspicuous and in larger flocks than before, some evidently having moved in from somewhere. All snow buntings observed today were immatures - not a single adult among them. Before they were in family groups. Shorebirds were conspicuous for their absence on the second day. Of the ringed plovers seen today, two were flying east along the coast, calling as they went and the other was an immature with black

14 Aug 1946
C. B. Handley Jr.

bill and incomplete breast band - lacking in middle. These two censuses should prove at least that the summer resident shorebirds have mostly migrated. Perhaps some species had already gone by 23 July even. Commanders Tanner and O'Neil were out all day in the 50. They flew west to Wellington Channel and east to Coburg Island. From an altitude of 5,000 feet they saw 5 white whales in Lancaster Sound & the western end of Devon Island. They found loose pack ice west of Maxwell Bay and solid pack beginning halfway thru Barrow strait and Wellington Channel. The part of Jones Sound they saw was filled with close pack. Southern Ellesmere Island was very rugged and mostly snow covered. Little Coburg Island they said was very beautiful in the bright sunlight. It appeared to be completely covered by icecap ~~and it~~ which ran right down into the water all around, actively discharging icebergs. North of Hiple Inlet the east coast of Devon Island was mostly icebound with the cap coming down to the water in many places. Philpots Island seemed not to be an island at all, but they were not absolutely sure. Nevertheless it was nine tenths plain and dotted with innumerable lakes. From Cape Osborn to Cape ~~Devon~~ Warrender was also good lake country. The only other flat lake country they remarked about was the west shore of Croker Bay. The icecap extends about to ~~entire~~ Maxwell Bay and beyond that is high seemingly barren table land much dissected. It does not seem likely that Devon is a very important duck breeding ground.

15 Aug. 1946
C. O. Handley Jr.

15 Aug. 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Island

Al flew over to the marine camp yesterday and picked up a fox which they had caught raiding their supplies. It was so mutilated and in fact had already been buried when Al secured it. I skinned it out during the morning. Its pelage was short blue fur with just a few long white hairs beginning to come in, especially about the face and feet. At noon I was flown over to the east shore of Croker Bay by helicopter. There was much discussion of whether I should be allowed to go alone, but finally it was decided that I could probably take care of myself. They did make me take some emergency rations (which I enjoyed very much) and a piece of red cloth to be used as a signal in case I had to be picked up before the appointed hour at the appointed spot. From the air the lakes dotting the tundra look like puddles and the surrounding green vegetation like scum. Thus you get the appearance of a large lake dried up, leaving behind small pools of stagnate water and between them the residue of the lake bottom. Close up and from a ground view they look entirely different of course. The coastal plain along the east side of Croker Bay was, as far as I went, on the average three miles wide, all dotted with lakes and traversed with a series of ~~gravel~~ gravel moraines running parallel to the coast. Each moraine is a little higher than the next until the mountains are reached. Thus the lakes are in roughly parallel tiered pockets between the moraines. The pockets are marshy and well vegetated while the moraines are bare hard packed gravel and small stones. The moraines are fine for walking. I decided to walk west along the beach and return along the inland moraines. The calls of loons (Red-throat) were everywhere in the air, and I shot one loon

15 aug 1946
continued
which flew too close before I was fairly started. I came across quite a few bones along the coast giving evidence of former visits from the Eskimos. The Mounties say that their Eskimos have made but one trip to the bay - that last winter, when they bagged ten polar bears. They believe that Croker Bay is a regular bear stronghold. Indeed, I saw two sets of bear tracks in the mud along the lakes; apparently fresh. One measured ten inches across and had sunk from one to six inches into mud that I sunk ¼ to one inch into. The bones of walrus were most common and I found one whole walrus which evidently had washed onto the beach several years ago. The hide and tusks were still intact. Seal and white whale remains were also numerous. The red-thr. loons I saw were all adults, mostly still paired, tho I saw one flock of thirteen. All are in nuptial plumage. They are usually encountered one or two pairs to a lake, depending upon the size of the lake, and are quite wary, flying well out of gun range. A few were seen off shore in the bay. I assume that the young of the year are already at sea since there is no evidence of nesting at present and since no young have been seen. They have a great variety of calls - all mixed together and heard at a distance they sound much like the noise raised by a guinea hen. One call is a guttural rolling sound like the screech owl's trill. Another like a cat's crying, and another

15 Aug 1946
C.O. Hadley, Jr.

a croak something like the ravens call.
Baird's sandpiper was the most commonly
encountered shore bird, seen along the beach
in flocks of two to eight individuals. I once
thought that they were hard to identify, before
I had seen any, but really it is an easy
matter. They are noticeably larger than the
smaller "peps", about the size of the white-rump,
and are conspicuously buffy, especially on the
breast where the dark coloration is almost as
extensive as on the pectoral sandpiper. I did not
notice anything distinctive about their call notes.
All seen today were obviously bunded together
for migration. Not since those seen at Dundas
Harbor in July, have any evidenced nesting. Two
large dark sandpipers which flushed from the
beach to a grounded growler, turned out to
be immature purple sandpipers. One still
had much down on the nape and about the head
and had probably been reared not far away. Large
size, about that of pectoral s., and very dark
coloration will set the purple sandpiper apart
with certainty. At one point in the field I heard a great
furor of screaming at two pitches. One I
recognized as being a jaeger and the other,
when I finally saw the birds, proved to be
a large shorebird. The jaeger and the shorebird
alternated chasing each other, each pursuing
his adversary with about equal determination.
Finally the jaeger (parasitic) lit with his
meat beside one of the lakes while the shore
bird sit on a growler just off shore with
some arctic terns. I had observed all this at
a distance of over half a mile so it was
not until I came closer that the shore
bird was identified with certainty as a
black bellied plover. I am not sure whether
it was nesting in the vicinity or not, tho it

15 Aug 1976
parasitic jaeger
became mildly excited when I approached the area where it was chasing the jaeger. When collected, it proved to be an adult just beginning to molt to the winter plumage. The parasitic jaegers were more numerous than anywhere else we have visited, but seemed to be finished nesting. Their screams were heard with considerable frequency as they harrased terns, gulls and shorebirds along the beach. Several were seen resting around the inland lakes. Arctic terns were seen at only one spot, and tho they became somewhat excited when I approached I don't believe they were still nesting. No immatures were seen. One I collected had the bill solid bright red with no trace of black. The plumage is very gray, shading even to black on the tail and primaries. The matter of immature birds is rather perplexing. 100% of the snow buntings seen now are immatures, while 100% of the kittiwakes, Iceland, glaucous and Thayers gulls, are adults. At sea and in Baffin Bay, most of the kittiwakes were immatures while in the inlets and sounds and close to shore all are adults. They were evidently still nesting at Thule, but nowhere else we have been. Most of the shorebirds seen now are also immatures. At our first visits to Dundas Harbor in July, the eiders were seen in large flocks and were about 99% males. At Thule we saw large flocks but no males at all, and on our august visits to Dundas Harbor the small flocks we have seen have been all females and or, immatures. This afternoon for a change, I saw a drake king eider in company of four

15 Aug 1946
C O Hardley, Jr.

females. Croker Bay is the best waterfowl breeding ground I have seen on this trip but I secured no direct evidence of nesting there. On my first visit I walked around many of the lakes without finding any old nests but on this second visit I stuck to dry land. Old squaws were the only ducks seen on the lakes and some which were unable to fly, tried to escape by diving when approached too closely. One large closely packed flock of 100 birds seen along the beach in thick stranded ice. When I rushed them there was quite a commotion of struggling wings as only about a third of the flock was able to become airborne. In the freshwater lakes I noticed a rich and varied fauna of invertebrate animals, shrimps, copepods, something that looked like a giant rotifer, and other forms. For the first time on this voyage, I discovered mosquitoes and was even bitten by one. I was beginning to think the mosquito stories of the arctic were just stories. Evidently they do not do well on the rugged mountainous islands which have little or no coastal plain at the foot of the mountains. The other insects such as butterflies, bees, and flies as well as spiders seem to survive nightly frosts with ease, and flowers are just as bright after a snow or frost as they were the day before. There are many less flowers blooming now than there were at our first visits however. I have not seen a day since we left Boston that jacket and gloves were not necessary for comfort, even tho the day may be still and sunny. Heat radiation from the earth on sunny days is much more pronounced or conspicuous here than

15 Aug 1946
Cordingley, J.
anyplace else I've ever visited. It seems to be of irregular occurrence and where one moment objects at half a mile may be too blurred for recognition, the same objects may be plainly visible a moment later. Blurring is particularly pronounced when viewing distant objects with binoculars. As the country became more interesting and more productive with every mile that I traveled westward, I was very reluctant to turn back toward the helicopter meeting spot after I had traveled only six or eight miles. I was picked up and whisked back to the ship without incident. The helicopter is the best means of transportation I have seen for the use of the naturalist. It takes off from shipboard and sets you down in minutes anywhere you want to go - on a mountain top, on a glacier, lake, marsh, beach or anywhere else which would take hours to reach on foot or by boat. I'm really sold on them. When we passed the glaucous gull rookerie on the way back three adults flew out angrily from the cliff to meet us, but the we passed so quickly that they had no opportunity to dive on us. The helicopter rides as steadily as tho you were sitting in a chair on the ground, the only queer sensation is banking 45 or 50 degrees in a sharp turn. This has been the most perfect day that I have spent in the arctic; more birds, more insects, more things of interest, than anywhere else I have visited, and nine shots, nine birds collected. Commander Quail says that from the air the west side of the bay appears to be better than the east. The whole place would bear further investigation

15 Aug 1946
Cornwallis, J.

During the day the following birds were noted:

Red-thr. loon 60 (5,2,1,1,1,5,2,4,4,5,1,2,2,13,12) 1 coll.
Large unidentified peep sandpiper 5 (3,2)
Snow Bunting 55 (1,10,2,15,2,10,5,3,2,5)
Glaucous Gull 23 (10,2,5,1,1,1,3)
Fulmar 1000+
Baird's Sandpiper 25 (8,5,3,5,2,2) 2 coll.
Lapland Longspur 2 (1,1) 1 coll.
Brunnich's Murre 1
Parasitic jaeger 10 (2,2,2,1,3) 1 coll.
Old squaw 162 (31,23,100,5,3)
Northern Eider 33 (14,5,13,1)
Purple sandpiper 2 2 coll.
Arctic tern 5 (1,3,1) 1 coll.
Black-bellied Plover 1 1 coll.
King Eider 5 (18)
Thayer's Gull 1

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16 Aug 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Island. I went ashore again today at the north end of the harbor. The trip this time in calm water took but 35 minutes, whereas the other day with the harbor whipped into whitecaps by the williwaw winds, and with water breaking clear over the whaleboat with every swell, it took 45. I explored the mud flats at the mouth of the till plain but found little of interest, seeing one ringed plover and two Baird's sandpipers. Near a much used sleeping or for dens in a rock ledge I found a good hare skull, relatively fresh as well as some lemming remains. Old lemming nests are abundant everywhere but there are no new ones and even new looking burrows yeild nothing when excavated. I picked up a great many owl pellets around all the little elevated knolls at the edge of the plain. Comdr. O'Neill saw a weasel near the RCMP sta. which he said was brownish gray. He and Comdr. Tanner also reported a 50' black whale seen from the air in Lancaster Sound. The spout was a single

16 Aug 1946 8
Cortandley
pumi, circled diagonally forward. They also report another white whale seen from the air. Mr. Campbell purchased three white weasel skins from the Eskimos, and some officers from the Pylkami purchased several white foxes, a few days ago. The following bird notes were made:

Ringed Plover	1 ad.	Snow Bunting	20
Baird's Sandpiper	2	Red-thr. Loon	3
Glaucous Gull	16	Raven	1
Thayer's Gull	10		

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17 Aug 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Island to 2330 then on course 180 in Lancaster Sound. The Norton Sound has been calling for us to rendezvous with ~~the~~ at Fox Bay, Bylot Island for several days now but the captain has put them off repeatedly to try to complete the accurate survey of the harbor which Thurmond and Heide and adams are making. Last night and today they were forced into idleness by snow and fog which made it impossible for them to see their shore beacons and thus get accurate positions for their soundings. Finally tonight it cleared for a few hours and they were able to complete the survey. We got underway immediately afterward. We spent the day aboard ship skinning birds in our new "laboratory". Till now we have been working on the carpenter's mate's bench, but when they rearranged the cargo on the deck above our sleeping compartment they left about a hundred square feet of empty floor space, which was immediately claimed by us. The carpenter's mate knocked up a table, we moved in our equipment, and for the first time during the voyage we have adequate working space. Someone has complained to the ship's MD about the birds accumulating in the icebox, even tho they are wrapped and boxed, so we have started

18 Aug 1946
Cartwright

to work on them. In order to spend as much time as possible ashore, we have been putting specimens in the ship's cold storage unit to keep until rainy days or days at sea.

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18 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet, and Jay Bay, Bylot Island. When I went topside this morning we were already following the whitewood thru the devious channel into Jay Bay which is situated on the west coast of Bylot Island, a few miles down from the northwest tip. It opens on Navy Board Inlet which separates Bylot from the Borden Peninsula of Baffin Island. There is a large expanse of low flat land at the northwest end of Bylot and the mountains do not rise up abruptly until several miles inland from the coast. Further East and further south along the coast the mountains meet the water in most places. The iceccap shows thru in ~~many~~ places and there are numerous active glaciers. Several empty into Jay Bay. The mountains are steep and rugged and almost completely barren, but are rather colorful because of many different types of strata which have rotted away to make the avalanches. The water of Jay Bay is milky white - I suppose from the discharge of numerous glacial streams into it. It is smaller, shallower, and more exposed than Dundas Harbour. The fellows aboard the Norton Sound which has been anchored here since I left her last week say that they have seen numerous hares and ptarmigans. Lt. Woodside described a ptarmigan he saw, even down to the red spots under the eyes. Dr. Lemons has a beautiful set of caribou antlers which he found on a mountain

nearby. On the west side of Navy Board Inlet, the mountains are more rolling and rounded and less rugged than those on Bylot but appear to be equally barren. South of Jay Bay on Baffin Island there is a spectacular row of six evenly spaced glaciers flowing down from the ice cap which is not very far inland at that point. The Northeast coast of the Borden Peninsula appears to be ice free. On the approaches to Jay Bay there were hundreds of murres, up to 25 per flock; dozens of fulmars; a few kittiwakes; and a few Thayers Gulls. In the harbor there were 25 Glaucous Gulls and 200 old squaws in one compact raft. The day was spent preparing specimens since the uncertainty of operational plans made it impossible for us to get ashore. Bird totals for day:

Brunnich's Murre	500	Thayers Gull	5
fulmar	100	Glaucous gull	25
kittiwake	10	Old squaw	200

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19 aug 1946 Jay Bay, Bylot Island. Al and I landed on the south shore of the bay this morning and followed around the black to the south for perhaps six miles. There was a colony of Thayer's gulls nesting on the rocks at the mouth of the harbor. I found three nests but there were probably more. The old birds zoomed me continually in the same manner I have already described for the glaucous gull. In one nest the two young were 1/3 grown, in another, two 1/2 grown, and in the third one 2/3 grown. All were still downy but had many feathers, especially in wings and tail. The down was gray, spotted with black and the wings were barred like a Plymouth Rock hen. Bill was black and feet were gray. They could not

19 aug 1946
Cornwallis Is.

be reached to make a collection. Later I saw quite a few glaucous and Thayers gulls flying along the beach and among them, several young of the year, the first immatures I have seen of these two species, in the air that is. The low plains are almost as barren as the mountains at this particular spot, very scantily vegetated. Nevertheless there are many lemming burrows, seemingly fresh, and much sign of fox and owl. I collected several plants need for the trip. A mile and a half or two miles south of the harbor we found a summer Eskimo camp on the beach. There were three families, with many children living in seal skin tents (also one modern wall tent) and they possessed fine dog teams of about 15 dogs each. These dogs are big clean cut, well fed animals in better condition than any we have seen. Al traded for a puppy to take home with him. Most are brownish or yellowish with strongly curled tails but a few are grayish, with straight tails and very wolf-like in appearance. The skin of the ringed seal was the commonest in their tent construction but it is hard to tell where they originated since they had some caribou hides which they indicated they had purchased from the Hudson Bay post at Pond Inlet. They were preparing rawhide thongs and laying out sinew threads to dry at the time of our visit, but they had a sewing machine which they used in making their clothes. The women were wearing colorful cotton dresses over skin boots. One of the men took us to a place along the beach to the south where two large male walruses had been freshly cached. Since the heads were far too heavy to carry back to the ship as specimens we traded for the tusks which the Eskimo chopped out of the heads with a hatchet with considerable skill. One of the officers on the Whitewood has a six foot narwhal tusk

19 Aug 1946
Cornwallis, I.
which he traded from these same Eskimos. Many have fine white fox skins and polar bear skins which they purchased at Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay. Some fox skins for as much as $30 and some bear for as much as $5. Dr. Soult and Mashburn saw a hare near the harbor which they said was very large and bluish-gray. Mashburn got two plants from the north shore which are of the pea family and look much like vetch. One has yellow flowers while the other has bluish-white flowers. He and Capt. Hoyle have boxes of plants on the deck which they hope to get back to the states alive. The following birds were noted during the day:

Red-thr. Loon	2	Kittiwake	3
No. Eider	12 (1, 11)	Guillemot	1
Thayer's Gull	20 (5 yg, 1 im)	Murre	25
Glaucous Gull	19 (2 im)	Raven	3
Fulmar	100	Snow Bunting	5
		Ringed Plover	2

20 Aug 1946 Jay Bay, Bylot Is. Till 1445 then out of harbor on course 350 toward Dundas Harbor. I found out last night that I was to be transferred to the ~~Norton~~ Whitewood so I went over to the Norton Sound and transferred my gear while the Whitewood was tied up along side. On the Whitewood I will share a stateroom with three others: Lt. E. A. Beaquin, aerologist; Mr. Campbell, Coast & Geodetic Survey; Capt. Turner, army QM. I've tried about all the ships of the task force now. The Whitewood is the smallest, about a hundred and ~~ninety~~ sixty feet and is little more than a tug. Comparison of the number of tables in the officer's wardrooms of the various ships indicates relative size: Norton Sound has twelve, Northwind has four, and Whitewood has two. Ships complement for the Whitewood is 3 officers and 60 men, but for this particular operation it has five officers. I said everybody goodbye on the Northwind

20 aug 1966
Egg Radley, J.

for the second time and moved to the White-wood which got underway at 1445. We are to go to Dundas Harbor to get supplies from the Bertrami which is picking up the Marines and then we will go west to the west tip of Devon, then to the north shore of Somerset and then Baffin and Bylot. Theoretically being back to Lay Bay and ready to leave for the States in ten days. During our trip Hide, Sherrell and Campbell propose to make six hydrographic and magnetic stations which will allow arctic charts to be more accurately oriented. The staff is to go aboard the Northwind which will then proceed North to the ~~Cam~~ Kane Basin to penetrate the ice as far north as possible. Thus the roles of the Whitewood and Northwind have been reversed to their proper positions after a month of fumbling. Al stayed on the Northwind but I expect I have the best deal since I will probably get ashore much more often and in more remote places than he. Lancaster Sound was very rough tonight and the Whitewood rocked, rolled, pitched, tossed and did about everything but turn over. Under those conditions the sack seemed the best place for me so I hit it early. I didn't feel very good but I didn't get sick. The following bird notes were made:

1500 Harbor mouth: Kittiwake 77, 4 Thayers Gulls, 3 Oldsquaws, 4 murres
1515 10 murres, 1 fulmar, 1 Kittiwake
1530 37 murres, 4 Kittiwakes
1545 20 murres, 8 Kittiwakes
1600 5 murres, 1 Kittiwake
1745 10 murres, 5 fulmars
1800 49 murres, 8 fulmars, 2 dovekies (flying)

Total: murre 135 √ Thayers gull 4 √ fulmar 14
√ Kittiwake 91 √ Oldsquaw 3 √ Dovekie 2

21 Aug 1946
Cora Dudley, Jr. underway from Dundas Harbor 0830

21 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound; course 270; speed 9K. Sea rippled to glassy smooth; wind 5K to calm; temp. 30°-32°; visibility 500 yds. to 10 mi. Most of the day it was too foggy to do much bird observing so most of the day was spent catching up on note writing. The most interesting thing of note was the abundance of murres with young. I reported full grown immatures in Baffin Bay a month ago but now I know that they must have been just moltingmales. These young were about dovekie size, appeared to be exactly like the mother in coloration, and in no case was there more than one to a female. They swam very close to their mothers, and the whole of baby and mother was always separate, never grouped with others, tho several dozen scattered pairs might be in view at one time. Not young were observed at 1245 when they were abundant, the last at 1745 when they were very few. Scattered flocks of males were seen the whole time. Probably the large flocks we saw in Baffin Bay were all males. Two dovekies were seen at longitude 87°W - the furthest west we have observed them. Except that they took off and flew away I would have passed them up as yu. murres which had lost their mothers. The first floe ice was encountered opposite Maxwell Bay and guillemots were numerous about the edge of it. They are almost the most characteristic birds of ice floes. The following observations were made during the day:

1245 53 murres - (many yu)
1300 62 murres ("), 13 fulmars
1500 17 murres (few yu), 4 fulmars
1645 10 murres, 26 fulmars, 2 dovekies
1745 4 murres (1 yu.), 1 fulmar
2145 5 murres, 25 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes - opposite Maxwell Bay - first floe ice
2200 13 guillemots, 5 murres, 15 fulmars, 5 kittiwakes, 1 seal - passing ice floe.

total:

murre	156	kittiwake	7
fulmar	84	guillemot	13
dovekie	2	seal	1

22 Aug 1946
C. A. Bailey, Jr.

22 Aug 1946 Mouth of Mary River, SW tip of Devon Is.
It was clear this morning and I went ashore with Sherrell and Campbell at 0900 at the mouth of the Mary River which is really no more than a small brook. The wind which was blowing strong when we went ashore soon developed into a gale blowing steadily at 38 knots and in gusts up to 45 k. It was blowing so hard that you could lean 30° into it without danger of falling and you had to lean almost that to walk into it. It became cloudy in the afternoon and by night it was raining. Both Union and Erebus Bays were filled completely with pack ice and when that began to move out toward the ship at 2030 we got underway, tho Campbell and Sherrell had not completed their work. They had pulled us off the beach at 1645 because the sea had gotten so rough that there was danger that a small boat couldn't reach us. I walked east along the beach to the shore of Erebus Bay and then back along the edge of the mountain to the mouth of the river for lunch. There is a summer Eskimo camp at the eastern tip of Beechey Island which is not presently occupied and there is only a little sign of Eskimos around Union Bay. There are a few fragmentary bones of seals along the beach but all are old. I found one walrus skull about a mile inland from the beach which was so old that it crumbled to pieces when I tried to pick it up. A mile inland and 250 ft above the present beach line I found old remains of a very large whale. All the lowlands up to the edge of the mountains are completely barren shale. All plants are rare and widely scattered. ~~and~~ Mosses are most common and the yellow Papaver is the most frequent flowering plant. Even willows are rare. From the great numbers of shell remains, even 200 to 300 feet above the present beach it is evident that the area must be actively emergent. ~~[illegible]~~ Discovery ~~[illegible]~~ the shale also suggests successive beach lines. The whale

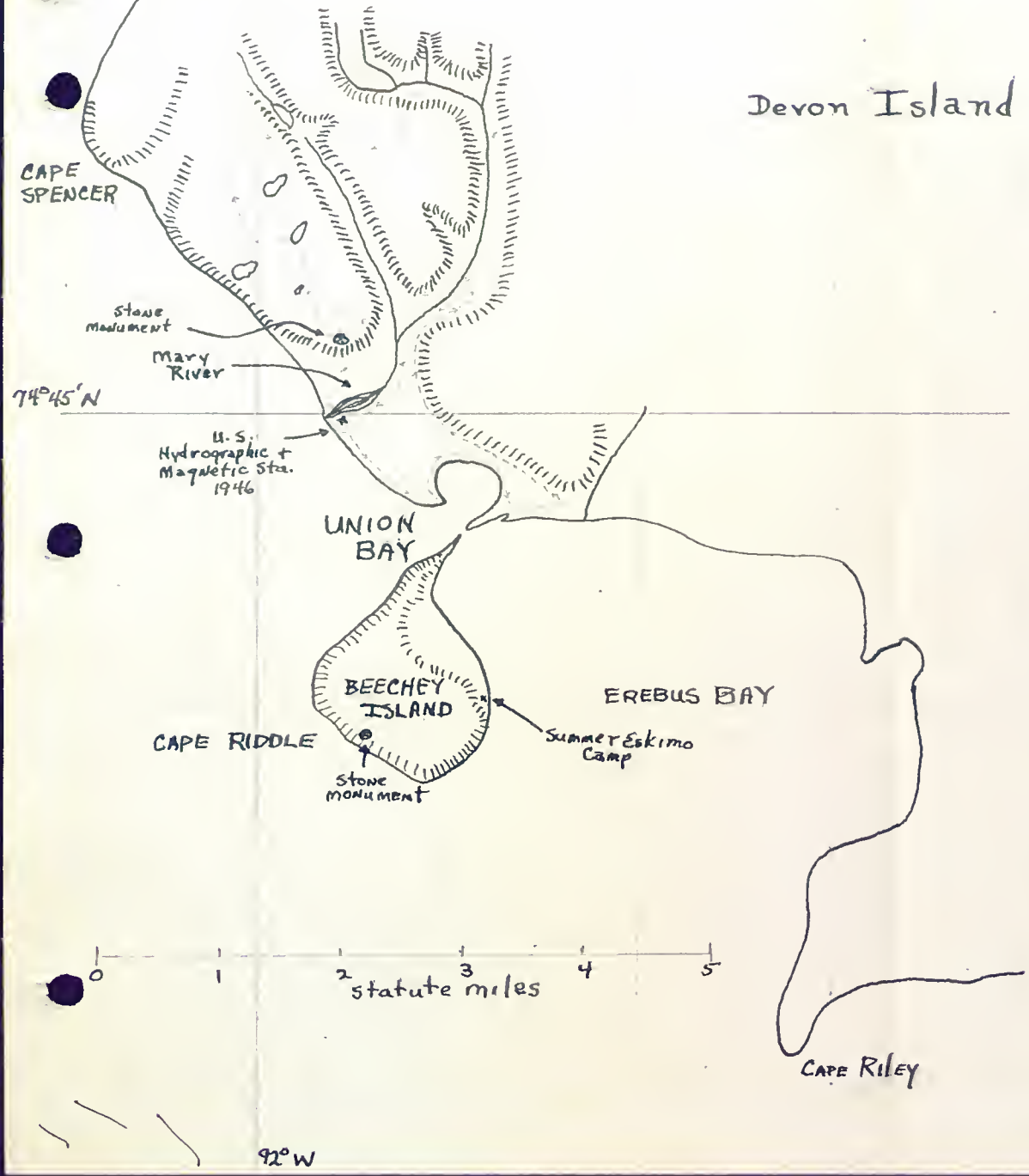
111+

2245

fulman
kittiwake
par. j.
murre
big rider

Union Bay and vicinity, SW Devon Island, showing routes of travel 22

C.O. Handley, Jr. 23 Aug 1946



22 Aug 1946
Continued

summit of which the chart places at 632 feet, but I believe it's higher. I found a cairn on top. The top is fairly level and covered with crumbled shale and limestone and plants and mosses seem to be miles apart and then only lonesome sprigs. There are occasional small lakes and snow banks. As far as the eye can reach to the north there is similar terrain, the monotony unbroken by any landmark such as a prominent peak or rise. It all seems to be flat and rolling, tho of course it is actually probably much dissected by deep canyons such as occur near the coast. It has the makings of a first class place to get lost in. It is as barren as a desert and yet, here and there all over the plateau are numerous tracks, small and large, usually singly or in pairs, and much fresh dung. The very fact that the tracks were not in groups leads me to believe that they were of caribou rather than muskox as I first thought. Also I found several old caribou skulls. I scanned the distant hills every few minutes with my binoculars and tried very hard to make peculiar groups of boulders into animals, but I couldn't. From the plateau I could see west to Cornwallis Island which seems to have similar mountains and south to Somerset Island which appears to have lower mountains. I could see the whole length and width of Wellington Channel and could see that the solid pack started about the centre of it just as Comdr. Quill had reported. There was very little loose pack, the clear water going almost up to the edge of the solid pack. Barrow Strait was fogged in so I couldn't tell about ice in it. I walked for about two hours on the plateau and then dropped down

23 Aug 1946 12.
~~Continued~~
into the Mary River canyon in the stretch where it flows almost due West. There appears to be a large, mostly ice covered lake at the elbow where it turns north again. Shells were abundant at this point which is at least three miles above the mouth. Whether they are fresh water varieties or whether this was once a salt water inlet I don't know. I followed ~~out~~ on down the valley to the beach, and on the way noticed two of the hares ~~at~~ spots almost exactly where I had left them in the morning. On all my walking I noticed rabbit scats only in the immediate area where I saw the four. During the whole afternoon the two hares were the only living things I saw besides plants, tho I must have walked at least ten miles. I thought Dundas Harbor was barren until I saw Jay Bay; after seeing Union Bay, Jay Bay doesn't seem so bad. I saw no sign of fox, lemming, or weasel, new or old. A brood of 4 eiders I saw in the ice in Union Bay were only 1/3 grown and completely down covered. The following birds were noted:

Guillemot 21
Fulmar 80
Thayers Gull 16
Kittiwake 50
Arctic Tern 2 ad
No. Eider 20 (5, 15)
Red-throat Loon 1
Snow Bunting (ad-winter plumage)

Baird's Sandpiper 3
Purple Sandpiper 2 im
Parasitic Jaeger 2
Glaucous Gull 2
} very tame feeding at mouth of river

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23 Aug 1946 Union Bay, Devon Is. till 1600 then south across Lancaster Sound to Garnier Bay and Port Leopold, Somerset Is. Several of the ship's officers saw two polar bears night before last as we were nearing Union Bay; they were on ice floes. Yesterday afternoon when we weighed anchor for a few minutes to clear the ice which was coming out of Union Bay, we passed another one on a floe. About everyone saw it except me. It was on the port side, I was on the starboard where most of the ice was. This morning the wind had died down but we were enveloped in thick fog which did not clear. In the middle of the after-

23 Aug 1946
Continued

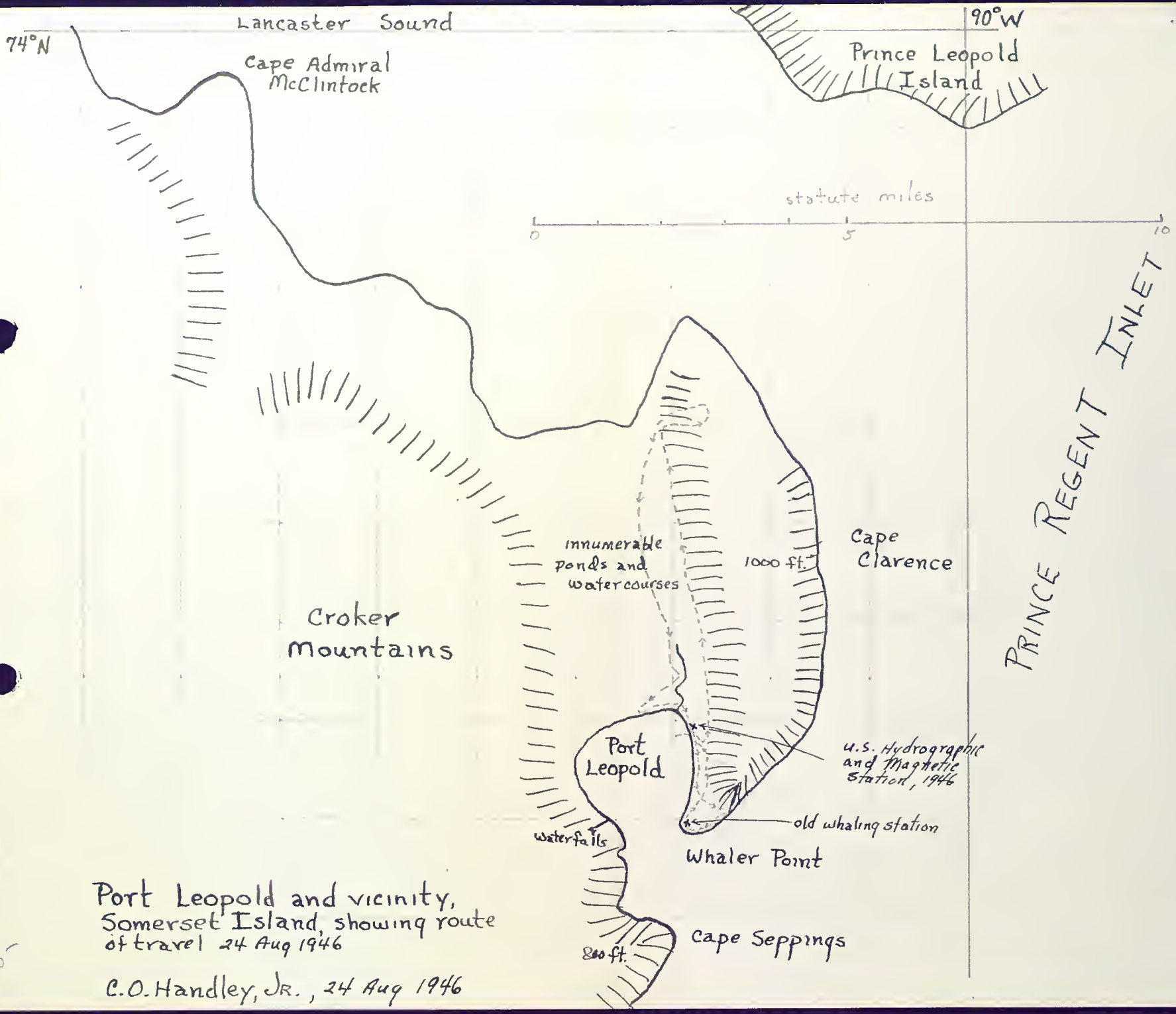
noon the wind suddenly began to blow hard again, this time from the north. Despairing of getting weather good enough to finish this station we weighed anchor about 1600 and headed for Somerset Island. We passed thru only two large floes in crossing Lancaster Sound and there were disappointingly few birds and animals around them. All have noted time and again that the numbers of fulmars are greater about ice than in clear water, and away from shore guillemots are hardly encountered at all except around ice. Murres and kittiwakes, the other two most common open water birds do not seem to congregate about ice to any extent, except that kittiwakes often use isolated bergs and growlers as resting places. As we approached Garnier Bay, the water shoaled to twelve fathoms three miles off shore so the captain decided not to go in (the Whitewood draws 17 feet of water, 3 fathoms). This extreme caution by all the ships of the operation has surprised me. We were still underway eastward when I turned in. Someone was remarking today about the use of plastic coffee cups aboard, which aren't very convenient. It seems that during the week that the Whitewood was following the Northwind, the larger ship kept the smaller in the trough of the sea and almost every china coffee cup aboard was broken. The mountains about Garnier Bay are rounded and not high and there are wide coastal plains on both sides of the bay. I couldn't determine how well they were vegetated. The following birds were noted:

1830 - large ice floe - 50 fulmars, 1 kittiwake, 5 guillemots, 18 harp seal.

1930 - another large floe - 50 fulmars, 2 kittiwakes, 5 guillemots near Garnier Bay, 2 murres.

Total: fulmar 100 guillemot 10 harp seal 1
kittiwake 3 murre 2

This was the first day in several weeks that I had nothing to do, and needless to say time hung very heavily.



Port Leopold and vicinity, Somerset Island, showing route of travel 24 Aug 1946

C.O. Handley, Jr., 24 Aug 1946

15

24 Aug 1946
cont Handley, J.
24 Aug 1946 Port Leopold, NE Somerset Is. We awoke to a crisp clear morning and were on the beach by 0830. Campbell and Therrell set up their station beside a deserted two story house, the origin of which is unknown. There were many fragments of Eskimo utensils all about the place as well a great many bones of fox, dog, bear, seal, whitewhale, and walrus. Tho the remains of foxes were numerous and I collected several good skulls, evidently there are not many or any around now for the bones of a bear, dead for six months or a year, still had meat on them. Much to my disappointment I found that this was another barren place, about on a par with Jay Bay. Barren from the standpoint of land animals and birds that is. Shale is the predominant rock with only a little limestone. Shale, as well as all other sedimentary rock, in this region is quickly broken into small pieces by frost action, but the action stops with the breaking. In the states, broken shale soon becomes muddy and it isn't long until it has become earth. Here it just stays shale, and shelled of shale, packed hard as a highway just isn't very conducive to plant growth or animal life. Plants are very infrequent and their sparce growths are found mostly along seepage ways where a little soil has formed. The only profuse plant growth is around old whale caches where the buried meat evidently served as a much needed fertilizer. On Whaler Point there is an old whaling station with the remains of a boiler and some other metal implements. Possibly blubber was reduced at this place. All around are old caches and the bones of many large whales. I saw at least two dozen fragmentary skulls which measured four to five feet across the occipital end. I spent the whole day on the east side of the bay, returning with Campbell and Therrell to the ship at 1700 after the fog had closed in like a blanket again. I walked north along the edge of the mountain and ascended to the top at the north end - everywhere the same story - hard packed shale. The ground was covered with a fresh skiff of snow and was frozen except on the beach and the floor of the valley. On top the mountain surface was covered with a thin layer of fresh ice, even the yellow blossoms of fireweed just as tho they were delicately formed glassware. All

24 Aug 1946
Cornakley, J.

the mountain valleys are completely filled with snowbanks, which is true of the mountains on both sides of the bay. The mountains to the west of the bay rise in rounded ridges to a plateau seemingly like that desolate place on West Devon. At one point on the west shore there is a spectacular waterfall, the first I have seen in the arctic, where a small creek plunges 100 feet into a sheer walled basin. The flat land north of Port Leopold was undoubtedly not too long ago covered by the sea and is even now only a vast mud flat with innumerable lakes and watercourses only a few feet above the sea. It is practically devoid of vegetation. Flocks of kittiwakes were flying northward across this flat all morning and I also saw numerous parasitic jaegers, among them two which were in the dark phase, the first I've seen for some time. Along the north shore of the bay I noted a female northern eider with six downy young, 3 of which were scarcely ¼ grown and 3 of which were about ⅓ grown. The female fluttered across the beach and onto a nearby pond, feigning a broken wing while the ducklings escaped into the bay where the mother joined them in a moment or so. I was startled by the sound of heavy breathing and turned to see the waters just off shore boiling with white whales, dozens of them. I watched for almost an hour as the school which must have numbered at least a hundred passed several times up and down the beach, hardly twenty-five yds. off shore. They would raise the snout partially out of the water, enough to expose the blow holes and exhale with a short, loud, easily imitated, hoarse blowing sound, accompanied by a mist of vapor. This done without breaking the rhythm of the roll they would continue the arc exposing the back, but slipping under the water again without exposing the tail flukes. The largest individuals were mostly creamy white, glistening snowy white in the sunlight, while most of the smaller ones were brownish, or grayish brown.

24 Aug 1946
C O Handley, Jr.

Some of the smallest calves, probably not over six feet long, continually rolled sidewise as well as forward, showing the pectoral fins and caudal flukes. Occasionally the herd jammed together and there would be exceptional thrashing around, exposure of whole snouts, slapping caudal flukes on the water, and squealing and grunting sounds. Once or twice a few individuals come up with their heads covered with kelp. A great deal of this sea weed was floating free in the area, evidently uprooted by the whales. Later in the day the whale boat making soundings of the harbor reported trapping the whales between them and the beach as the animals were moving out along the west shore. The whales became very panicky and started to make a run for it but were obstructed by some grounded ice. They apparently tried to dive under the ice and collided head on, throwing their tails high into the air. The strong north (25 knots) wind had by midday piled quite a bit of ice up against the south shore of the bay and a number of kittiwakes had accumulated there. I was sitting atop the bluff watching a flock of a hundred or so kittiwakes feeding in an open lead about seventy-five yards below me. Most of them had settled onto the small expanse of open water when suddenly and unexpectedly ~~on~~ a large walrus reared its head in their midst for a breath of fresh air. It startled the gulls which burst into the air in every direction, and surprised me. The walrus took several deep breaths, accompanied by a long loud sound of exhalation, and then submerged again and the gulls again settled on the water to resume their feast of shrimps or fish or whatever it was that they were gobbling up so eagerly. In surfacing, the walrus showed its snout down about to the level of the tops of its tusks, and to just below its little wrinkled eyes, and its buffy brown back. In this position it seemed more like what I thought a manatee ought to look like, than it did like a walrus. It dived without raising its head above the water and exposed much more of its much

24 Aug 1946
C. H. Hadley Jr.

scarred back and sides. The long sighing sound of its exhalation was quite loud at 75 yards and was recognizable and easily heard at 200. It was conspicuous enough to attract attention even when the walrus was hidden from view in the roughly packed ice. The animal moved 75-100 yds. between each breath, sometimes rising at the edge of the pack and often at some lead well up in it. It had been pretty well all over the pack by the time I left after about an hour of watching. Once it apparently decided to haul out onto the ice, raising its head and shoulders out of the water and showing yellowish tusks about a foot long, but the slope was too steep evidently for the energy it wanted to expend so it disappeared again below the surface of the water. About this same lead I observed several of the common harp seals and one large seal which appeared to be an even bluish gray color throughout. Its eyes seemed very large & large dark against the gray surroundings. Unlike the harp seals which progress thru the water with a series of bobbing motions, exposing their heads every few yards, this seal swam with its head continuously exposed. The group taking soundings from the whale boat spotted a polar bear on the west beach, which left the beach and ambled off across the bare hillside as they approached, stopping several times to turn and study the intruders. They rushed across the bay to pick me up, but I was nowhere in sight at the time, so I still have to all my first polar bear. Its getting to be sort of a joke now that everyone but me has seen one. Despite missing the bear tho, I saw more mammals today than during all the rest of the trip put together. Incidentally with both the white whales and the walrus there was no sound of inhalation, tho the sounds of exhalation were conspicuous. On the sea cliff of the mountain east of the bay there was a breeding colony of guillemots. I couldn't spot any young, but the adults were coming in fresh

far and wide carry such large mouthfulls of food that it hung out the edges. I saw quite a few adults perched on the face of the cliff almost a thousand feet above the water, so high up that they looked like swallows when they flew in and out from the cliff. A large group also accumulated at the base of the cliff in the water waiting for me to depart. They made a soft whistling noise which sounded remotely like the robins sigh. I thought at first that it was young calling but soon discovered my mistake. Evidently no young guillemots have yet left the nest as we haven't seen any. Today was a gull day with a capital "G", for besides the common kittiwake and Glaucous and Thayer's I saw two others. Among the hundreds of kittiwakes feeding in the ice was one adult, black headed, Sabine's gull, the first one that I've gotten a really good look at. The black hood with the white of the neck at a peculiar angle, quite different in appearance from the laughing and Bonaparte's gulls. As I walked across Whaler Point I became aware of another different gull approaching me from the sea. I could hardly believe my eyes when it turned out to be an ivory gull, here flying over land when it should have been far out to sea somewhere with the ice pack. It flew close over me, satisfied its curiosity, and disappeared again seaward. At Union Bay I went ashore with a shotgun, having no need for it and wishing all day that I had a rifle. Today I had a rifle and needed a shotgun all day. You simply need two persons to collect efficiently. I think, but I'm not sure, that the kittiwakes are nesting in the vicinity. Of over seven hundred I saw today there was not an immature among them, everyone was an adult. I found a few mandibles of lemmings on a mound, apparently from completely disintegrated owl pellets, but no other old or new sign. I saw no sign of fox, except the boxes around the house, and found droppings of rabbits at only one spot. I found numerous steel traps laying around, evidently discarded by Eskimos after a

24 Aug 1946
C.O. Saddleyich.

winters trapping. The following birds were noted during the day:

Parasitic jaeger 11 (2,1,1,3,1,1,2; [2 dark phase]) Red-thr. Loon 4 (2,2)
Snow Bunting 10 (2,4,2,2, [ad. in winter plumage & immat.])
Mandt's Guillemot 110
Glaucous gull 13 (1,2,3,1,1,2,2,1) Thayers gull 1
Kittiwake 750 (50,8,6,21,10,11,50,100,200,300) Murre 1
Sabines Gull 1 Ivory gull 1 Fulmar 500
Baird's Sandpiper 1 No. Eider 16 (1,1,5,1,2,6 ♀) Old squaw 1
white whale 100, walrus 1, harp seal 4, gray (?) seal 1, polar bear 1 (reported).

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25 Aug 1946 Port Leopold, Somerset Is. We lay at anchor all day, ~~but~~ enveloped in thick fog and buffeted by a 35 knot wind bearing sleet and rain. Radio messages indicate that the northwind is in the Kane Basin.

about a dozen murres seen in entrance to Port Leopold 26 Aug.

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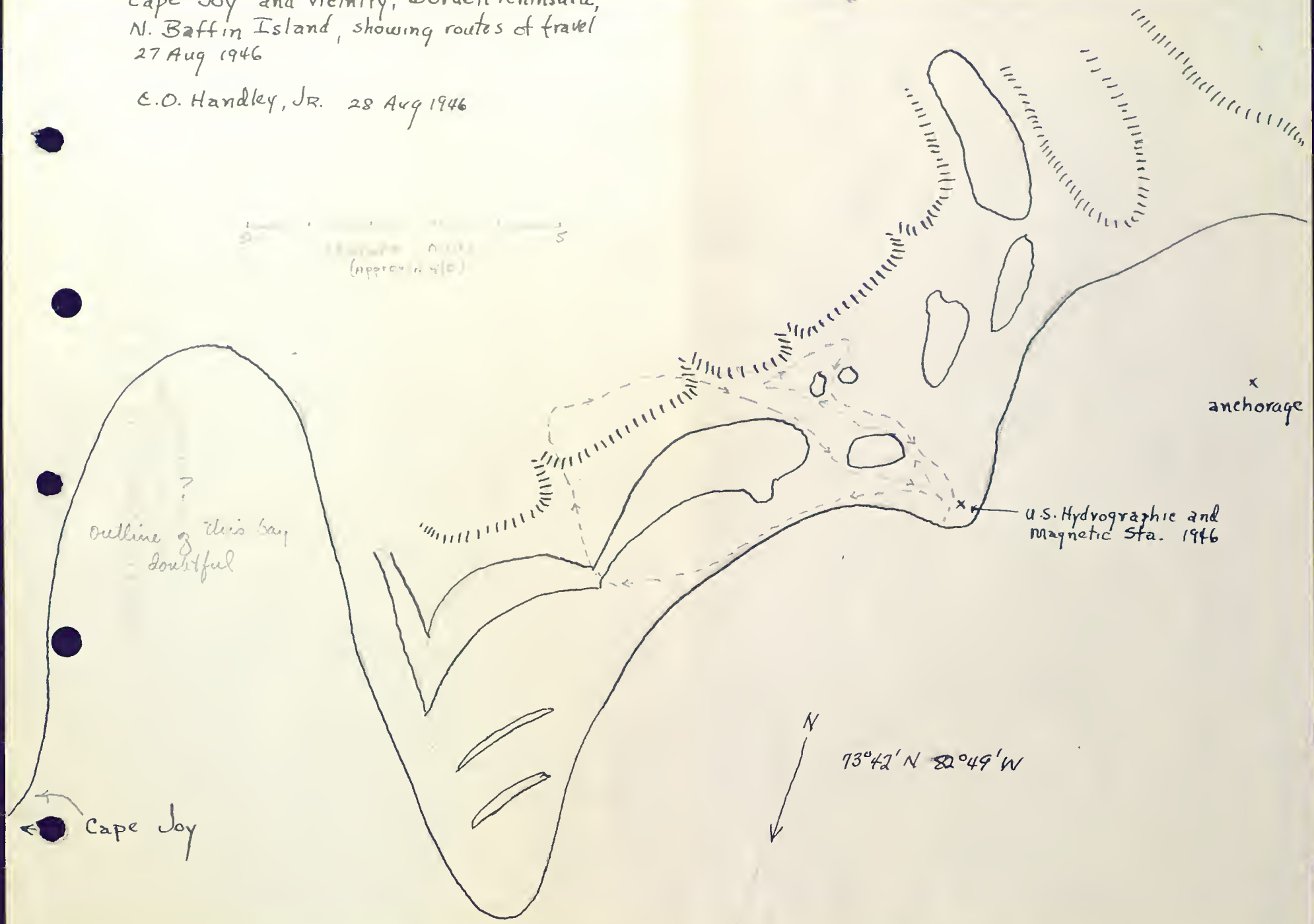
26 Aug 1946 Port Leopold till 0800 then east thru Lancaster Sound to Cape Jay, Borden Peninsula, N. Baffin Island. This morning the wind had died down and the fog had thinned somewhat so we set out for another station. We had hoped to make one on the north coast of the Brodeur Peninsula but found no place for an anchorage there so proceeded to the small bay just south of Cape Jay, Borden Peninsula. The coastline east of Port Leopold on Somerset Is. is steep cliff as are the south, east, and west coasts of Prince Leopold Island. Indeed, unless there is flat ground on the North of that Island, then it is sheer walled all around. The north shore of the Brodeur Peninsula is alternately cliffed and lowlanded and the mountains rising to the central plateau are rounded. It looks much the same as North Somerset. Despite the fact that there was little wind, there were big swells in Lancaster Sound and the Whitewood rolled and pitched all day long in a most disconcerting manner. I hope I don't have to make the trip back to the States with it, tho for these waters its the ship to be on, for its nosed into lee harbors for every one that blew hard.

Cape Joy and vicinity, Borden Peninsula, N. Baffin Island, showing routes of travel
27 Aug 1946

E.O. Handley, Jr. 28 Aug 1946



27 Aug 1946 Cape Joy, Borden Peninsula, N. Baffin Island. It remained overcast throughout the morning but toward noon it began to clear and we landed on the beach at 1230. Though it remained clear and sunny at Dundas Harbor across the sound all day long, it clouded over again here and the wind about 1800. The sun came out again at 2200 and we watched it set a few minutes later - the first time I've seen it set since the middle of July. I suppose its been setting for several days now but its always been overcast in the evening for the past week or so. It still isn't completely dark at midnight, but it's too dark to do close work out doors. Cape Joy is a low gravelly promontory and for several miles to the SW the mountains retreat inland from the coast for as much as a mile or more; westward the coastline becomes castelated with cliffs again. In the low ground SW of Cape Joy there are many lakes, some of them large, and considerable marshy tundra. The mountains and foothills are relatively bare but do have sparce vegetation spotted all over them - a clump here, and another a few yards away. All told it is a much less barren place than any of the last three areas we have visited, tho it does not appear to be as hospitable as Dundas Harbor. There are occasional circles of stones along the beach indicating visits from Eskimos, but there are no fresh bones to indicate recent visits. There are numerous old bones of walrus, seal, polar bear and white whale. I saw fresh bear tracks at one place along the beach and saw a harp seal just off shore at another point. Large flocks of eiders were passing east along the coast all afternoon, all were females or immature except one male king eider. Possibly all were king eiders. One female which looked like a northern eider was accompanied by six ducklings, three-fourths grown. A flock of 22 snow geese, all adult, flew west along coast and

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Coffindley, R

then out of sight inland. All snow buntings seen were either in winter plumage or almost. Several hares were seen and four collected. One was along a rocky rise in the lowland, three were in the talus slope at the base of the mountains and two were on the top of a mountain. These travelled by an ordinary rabbit hop and did not stand on their hind legs. Four of the six seen were nearly pure white, but with gray-black hairs in varying amounts on the face, neck, and upper back. This was noticable even at a considerable distance. Those on Greenland and West Dover appeared to be pure white, except for black ear tips. The three white ones collected were all males. Two seen were gray or blackish-gray, and one which was collected proved to be a lactating female. She evidenced very little change toward the white pelage. The dark one seen, but missed, appeared to have the back even darker, almost black on the upper back. All were alert and in good condition but were not fat. They are quite timid and will not allow a close approach. Those collected were shot at between 150 and 250 yards. Once startled they travel a long distance before coming to rest again. There were some fresh signs of fox and some old lemming nests. Owl pellets noticed contained snow bunting bones. Flies of several kinds were numerous.

The hares measured as follows:

#310 ♂-white - 620-85-150-88
#311 ♀-gray - 600-85-155-90
#312 ♂-white - 590-84-150-85
#313 ♂-white - 570-78-142-87

The following bird notes were made:

King Eider (?) 1005 (115 [illegible], 125, 150, 200, 115, 100, 60, 50, 75, 25)
No. Eider (?) 1♂ with 6 yn
Snow Goose 22
Baird Sandpiper 1
Snow Bunting 23
Parasitic jaeger 1
Guillemot 3
Thayers gull 1
Black-ter-soon 2
Red-ter-soon 1
Fulmar 20
Kittiwake 25

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CO Landley. J.

28 aug 1946 Cape Joy, N. Baffin Is. till 0900 then east thru Lancaster Sound to Jay Bay, Bylot Is. The whole north tip of the Borden Peninsula is relatively low and shows free and slopes gradually up to the high snow covered mountains. The coastal ridges are all bare. The north tip of the Brodeur Peninsula to the west however is bounded by steep cliffs and the ascent to the ice cap is rapid. The ice cap appears to be restricted to the northern end of the peninsula. From the south and west the south eastern tip of Devon Island appears to be the most elevated part of that island. The Wollaston Islands and adams Island at the mouth of Navy Board Inlet are flat, slightly elevated and appear to be barren rock. Lancaster Sound today was smooth as glass and the trip to Jay Bay was a pleasure. Dovekies were the most abundant birds along the way, being almost always in sight in flocks of three or four to fifty or more. This is the first time I have seen more than one or two a day since I've been travelling over Lancaster Sound. Maybe they just moved in. We arrived at Jay Bay about 1700 and got mail almost at once. I got a boat over to the Northwind but found that al was off on a polar bear hunt or something. From the number of hares and ptarmigan he has stacked up in his lab, he has quite a job of skinning ahead of him. The following birds were noted during the day:

Kittiwake	25	Dovekie	2,000
Hayers Gull	5	Murre	100
Glaucous Gull	5 (Jay Bay)	Guillemot	25
Fulmar	500	Eider	50

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29 aug 1946 Jay Bay, Bylot Is. until 1230 then west thru Lancaster Sound to vicinity of Maxwell Bay, Devon Island. We left our mooring with the Norton Sound at 0800 and tied up beside the Northwind for refueling. It seems that Dr. Sault had shot the three rabbits and eight ptarmigan which I noticed on board last night. From beginning to end he has been the most thoroughly interested and most anxious to assist of any of the officers we have encountered. He has stood on the cold bridge

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with me to watch birds, has gone out of his way to help with collections, and at Dundas Harbor, brought in a heavy and cumbersome muskox skull to us from a point almost three miles distant. Such a spirit of cooperation is truly refreshing. His rabbits and birds were killed on the ridge to the north of the bay. To my surprise he found them tame enough to be easily killed with a shot gun. All the rabbits I have seen have been extremely timid. Two that were white were adult males and one that was light gray was an immature. Day before yesterday Capt. Rosko had shot two polar bears along the north coast of Bylot from an SOC. One was hit only in the foot but the other seemed to be mortally wounded. Yesterday Al and Comdr. O'neill flew over to secure one of the animals if possible. They found only the slightly wounded one and after a short chase O'neill shot and killed it. It fell flat in a shallow pond and as it was too heavy for both men together to even roll over they really had a sad time with the chore of skinning it. Even with that done, finally, they had no little trouble hoisting the heavy skin up into the airplane. At length they succeeded in getting it safely back to the northwind tho. They reported seeing a tremendous rookery ("unbelievable numbers") of dovekies on the north shore of Bylot and great flights of large gulls headed south. Capt. Rosko reported thousands of ducks flying east along the south side of Lancaster Sound, perhaps part of the same movement of eiders which I noted at Cape Joy. During its recent northward venture the northwind penetrated along the east shore of Ellesmere Island to 81°44' North latitude, or to a point in the northern edge of the Hall Basin; almost to the northern most record for ships. The northwind did some spectacular icebreaking in the eastern part of the Kane Basin, but did little else astonishing. Everyone seems to have reached the limit of tolerance with Capt. Hoyle, even the most conservative. He has refused to go out of his way to heed anyone's

wishes, ~~not~~ even Commodore Cruzen's, and Cruzen is too nice a man to order anyone, especially one from another service, to do anything not directly pertaining to the operation. It seems to be the consensus of opinion that Hoyle has cooked the Coast Guard's chances of participating in any future phases of Nanook. On the other hand, from what I've seen and heard of Cruzen and Rosco, both are willing and eager to extend any possible cooperation. From what I gathered, birds were a rare item on the northern trip, tho Al said he saw numerous ivory gulls in the ice. They observed few walruses ~~and~~ or whales. Capt. Rosco said he saw some white whales off the entrance of Tay Bay the other day. I said good bye to everyone again, expecting not ever to see any of the ships of the operation again even, since this seems to be the parting of the ways. The Northwind is due to sail at 1530 in the direction of Melville Island, and the Norton Sound follows us out of the harbor at 1230 to begin its journey back to Norfolk. The Atule has been back for weeks and the Beltrami is on its way. Only the Alcona still remains at Thule. We are scheduled to make a station on the south central coast of Devon, one on Jones Sound, possibly another on North Bylot, and then head back to Boston. Our westward journey thru Lancaster Sound was thru peaceful glassy smooth waters but we were shrouded in thick fog and by the time we arrived off Maxwell Bay, late in the night, snow was falling. I'm afraid that the good weather of the early days of the operation are a thing of the past and the days of approaching winter are not likely to see much sun. Fall is the saddest, dreariest season of the year. Dovekies were by far the most conspicuous birds of the journey across the sound but were not encountered in especially large numbers. The following observations

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were made during the day:
1415 - Navy Board Inlet - 2 kittiwakes, 2 fulmars, 1 murre.
1430 3 kittiwakes, 1 fulmar, 3 murres
1445 - mouth of inlet - 10 murres, 500 dovekies, 50 fulmars, 15 kittiwakes, 1 northern phalarope.
1500 250 dovekies; 10 kittiwakes, 20 fulmars, 25 murres.
1800 - Lancaster Sound off Cape Joy - 25 fulmars, 10 dovekies
1815 15 fulmars, 1 murre
1830 25 fulmars, 75 dovekies, 20 murres

Totals:				
kittiwake	30	dovekie	835	one harp seal at mouth of ~~Navy Board~~ Inlet
fulmar	140	no. phalarope	1	
murre	60			

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30 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound off ~~Stratton Inlet~~ Stanley Bay and then anchored in ~~Burnett~~ Yoshouse Inlet at 0930. S. central Devon Is. There was thick fog all day today and rain and snow much of the time; wind was zero to 15 K. Cold and raw are three words which best describe the past two weeks. We nosed into what was determined to be Stratton Inlet by counting the number of inlets as we passed east from a known - Maxwell Bay. In this age of modern instruments and advanced civilization this sort of navigation seems singularly and even amazing crude and primative. Man is not as completely the master of his universe as he would like to have you think. Finding Stratton not suitable for a station we proceeded to the next inlet to the east: Burnett Creek or Burnett Inlet as it is variously called on charts. The navigator is not sure that this is Burnett, and I am quite sure that it is not the inlet which the Northwind surveyed and called "Burnett Creek". Somebody is wrong. This was not a good place for a station either since the towering mountains surrounding the harbor on all but the seaward side block out the sun except for a limited period of the day, but Therrell decided it would have to do. The whitewood pulled up to within two hundred yards of the beach before it anchored - Capt. Hoyle would have had heart failure had he seen that. The shore line drops off sharply into the water all around and the whole harbor is practically bottomless. It is a fine example of a fjord, tho it no longer has a glacier at its

Hobhouse Inlet and vicinity, South Central Devon I.
showing routes of travel, 30 + 31 Aug 1946

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head. The limestone ridges rise to a thousand or fifteen hundred feet all around the inlet, are cliffed at the top and have precipitous avalanche slopes to the very water's edge. There are three pretty waterfalls on the west escarpment and another just around the corner to the east. The north end of the inlet has a small flat area but then a rapid ascent to a large elevated valley running off to the northeast and blending into the barren plateau. There were large snow banks on the plateau but because of the fog I couldn't see to the ice cap, which was undoubtedly near at hand, however. Rocks of the vicinity are mainly tenths limestones, some of it algal of coral origin, showing the intricate "marble cake" whorls which make favorite pictures for geology text books. There is a narrow beach running around from the point to the east of the inlet; otherwise there is no low ground. Vegetation is varied and scattered, mostly extremely sparce, except on seepage slopes which are more favored. Very old bones on the beach included bear, walrus, and white whale seal. Otherwise I saw no mammal sign whatsoever except for one fresh fragment of a bare skull found at the head of the inlet. The sounding boat reported several white hares seen along the shore and Mr. Labell claims to have seen a white animal of the size and appearance of a goat from the bridge of the Ship. I traveled from the beach at noon around the east side of the inlet to its head, into the elevated valley, and onto the plateau, and back to the beach at 1600 without seeing any mammal. Guillemots were abundant and many were carrying food, but I couldn't determine where the rookery was. There were numerous parasitic jaegers hounding the guillemots trying to steal the food they were carrying. They didn't seem to bother those on the water but never failed to give pursuit to those flying. The guillemots

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COR Dudley, J

easily overtaken with hardly any effort at all would immediately plunge into the water with a very indignified plop, and the jaegers would fly off in disgust. I never did see them actually get any of the food away from the guillemots. There were several immature glaucous gulls (birds of the year) flying about the harbor and it was noted that their calls were quite unlike those of their parents. Several were also seen on the cliffs, evidently not yet large enough to become airborne. All the adult snow buntings seen recently have been in fresh winter plumage, while all the immatures are just in the midst of the molt. The following birds were noted during the day:

Dovekie	185 (Lancaster Sound)	Kittiwake	14
Fulmar	620	Snow Bunting	2
murre	2	Eider	57
Guillemot	400 (many carrying food)		
Glaucous Gull	45 (~~4~~ imm. in flight, 2 on cliff too small to fly)		
Parasitic jaeger	14 (3 dark) (harassing guillemots)		

It now gets "black" dark around midnight. The amount of darkness is increasing with amazing rapidity.

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31 Aug. 1946 ~~Burnett~~ Hobhouse Inlet, south central Devon Is. Comdr. Coombs made a flight in the SOC this afternoon to try to determine our position for sure and came back with the information that we are in Hobhouse Inlet and not in Burnett at all. Burnett is two inlets over to the east. There are seven or eight inlets along this stretch of the coast, all almost exactly six miles apart, and all about the same size, all adding up to a confusing situation. I traveled inland thru the valley at the head of the inlet, discovered a large creek flowing eastward parallel to the coast, ascended the plateau, crossed a part of the coastal snow field, and decended back to the beach, seeing nothing in the way of animal life during the whole trip except a pair of glaucous gulls and a Thayer's gull along the inland creek. At one spot I saw some old weathered tracks, presumably of caribou, but nothing else - no droppings of hare or fox or pellets of owls. And yet there is

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considerably more vegetation here than at Union Bay or Cape Joy where rabbits were encountered in some numbers. Nearly all seepage slopes are sparsely vegetated but there is no muskeg whatsoever in this vicinity. Plants grow in threads along each little rivulet, one plant here, another a yard or so away, and so on. For this region that is, I have learned a pretty profuse growth. As I have already remarked before, most of the rocks hereabouts are limestone but on the plateaus there is some shale. On all the high ground I have visited in the arctic there has been a considerable amount of a peculiar limestone which resembles nothing more than it does stucco or roughened plaster. We never seen anything like it before. There is considerable bare ground at this part of the coast. Directly north of Hobhouse Inlet the ice cap is fifteen or twenty miles inland, but it reaches the coast again just to the west of the inlet and on the east side of Stratton Inlet. There is a large isolated permanent snow field in the coastal region between Hobhouse and Stratton. Most of this bare area is high table land which I estimate to be around 2000 ft. elevation, and is much dissected with deep canyons. What I call Stratton Creek is a sizable stream, considerably larger than the main River of SW Devon, which flows eastward across the center of the area presumably to empty into Stratton Inlet. Its valley is a canyon throughout as far as I could see. Probably this creek once emptied into Hobhouse Inlet, for the broad valley at the head of that inlet now has only a trickle running thru it. As the ice-cap retreated it must have stopped for awhile where Stratton Creek then dug a deep canyon eastward across the face of it. All the bare area is profusely dotted with snow banks, some of them very large. On the coastal cliffs east of the inlet I found two more glaucous gull rookeries, one of 8 or 10 pairs and the other of two or three. Both had the young nearly full grown. The gulls I saw inland along Stratton Creek seemed very upset by my

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presence, but I am not sure that they were nesting there. During the day the following bird observations were made (between 1100 and 1800 during which period the sun shown most of the time):

Glaucous gull 116 (65 feeding at N end of inlet, 3 with 4 yn., 2, 20 with 20 yn.)
Thayers gull 2
Kittiwake 2
Fulmar 50
Parasitic jaeger 5
Guillemot 80
Eider 57
one seal
(grey sandpipers heard over Stratton creek)

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1 September 1946 Hobhouse Inlet till 0800 then east thru Lancaster Sound into Baffin Bay off E. Devon. Strangely enough the sky was clear again this morning and we got underway in a calm sunlit sea. Where we have been for the past two days is still somewhat of a mystery. Coombs, the aviator, says we were in Hobhouse Inlet; Gowler, the navigator says that his sunlines and LORAN put us between Stratton and Burnett inlets; Sherrell, the hydrographer, says his astro station on the beach put us four miles inland between Hobhouse and Stratton Inlets; and from my own observations on this and previous visits along the coast I am fairly convinced that we were in Hobhouse Inlet. So we leave it without being sure of where we were. Large glaciers spill into the sound just to the west of Blanley Bay and Cuming Inlet, the only ones I can remember seeing between Cape Bullen and Maxwell Bay. Hobhouse was the first completely ice free harbor we have seen in the arctic. As a matter of fact Lancaster Sound is completely clear too. Radiod positions of the Northwind and Norton Sound this morning put the Northwind at 110° west almost at Winter Harbor, and the Norton Sound at 65° north, just thru Davis Strait. It remained clear all day until we were off Bethune Inlet at 1900; from there on we were in thick fog. In Hobhouse Inlet we saw numerous starfish, six in. in diameter, at our bottom water off shore; also some jelly fish, the size of a lemon and oval shaped, with purple longitudinal ribs.

2 Sep 1946 Lady Ann Strait and Jones Sound to Broe Bay, North central Devon Island.

I awoke this morning with the sensation that we were going thru ice - the ship has a peculiar

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trembling feeling - so I was on deck at 0600. Ice fields were all around, Cobourg Island was aft Ellesmere to starboard and Devon to port. There were over fifty glaciers in sight at one time, really breath taking. Twenty-seven were on N Devon alone. On Devon the ice cap covers almost the whole coast leaving hardly any bare ground west to Cape Belcher. From that point west to cape Ward there is a narrow strip of bare mountain spurs perhaps a half or a mile wide, interrupted about every half mile by a glacier. While most of the glaciers east of cape Belcher are very active, most of them to the west are not and most do not reach to the waters edge. However there is a very large active glacier just SE of Broc Bay (at about 1000 hrs). West of Cape Ward the bare coastal area widens until the ice cap is lost from view. The mountains are all flat-topped tho unstratified and of igneous origin. Their sides are very steep, but not vertical as those of the south coast. NE Devon there is very little flat low ground, tho at places there is a narrow beach perhaps a quarter of a mile wide. All of Cape Belcher is relatively low. Cobourg Is. is all ice covered on the western side except for bare igneous mountain slopes dipping steeply into the sea. It has very many glaciers. The mountains of southern Ellesmere Island are higher and more pinnacle-topped than those of North Devon, but are also of igneous origin. The ice cap reaches the sea on the SE coast but westward retreats inland. There are some huge glaciers in the SE area. Craig Harbor seemed to be completely frozen in with shore ice so we made no attempt to go in. There were large ice floes all thru Lady Ann Strait and tho the Whitewood didn't make much headway thru the solid packs, as a matter of fact its efforts would have been comical beside the Northwind's graceful passage thru the same ice, it did manage to get thru all right by following the open leads. In this ice area fulmars were fairly numerous, and there were a few kittiwakes, ivory gulls, and murres

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as well as numerous seals. Sonic sound was ice free and smooth as a mill pond. We pulled into Broc. Bay about 0930 in bright sunshine, but while preparations were being made to go ashore it became overcast so we didn't hit the beach until 1400. The shores of the bay were covered with pounded growlers and seals were more numerous than at any other spot we have visited. At any moment you could scan the bay and see a dozen or more heads of 10 to 15 individuals at play. All that I saw closely were harp seals. Despite the abundance of seals neither I nor anyone else saw any signs of polar bears surprisingly enough. Glaucous gulls were abundant in the bay, and I saw a dozen or more ivory gulls close up; other white gulls too distant to identify may have been either kind. I noticed one unidentified kittiwake. The first thing that caught my eye when we landed at the beach was an abundance of musk-ox dung. I assured the landing party that today I was going to see some musk-ox without doubt, & I hadn't proceeded very far when I realized that that was no joke. At this point the low coastal plain is probably a mile wide at most places, terraced gradually up to the foot of the mountains, and dotted with innumerable lakes of varying sizes and shapes. The whole lowland is covered with green marshy tundra, dotted with millions of boulders. Grasses and sedges were the most abundant plants, contrary to the observations made at all other landfalls, but there was about the same assortment of flowering plants as was encountered at Dundas Harbor, and there was much moss, more than

anywhere else visited. ~~As~~ nine-tenths of the flowering plants have now finished blooming and are turned brown. They are not as conspicuous as in July. The yellow Papaver is still the most conspicuous blooming species. Over all this greenery the dung of musk-ox and caribou ~~were~~ was ~~some~~ so common as to remind you of a barnyard in winter. Hardly could you find a square foot that didn't have one or more tracks in it, some as much as seven inches in diameter, others much smaller, probably of young of the year. Exceptionally large boulders ~~were~~ circled about by bare well-trodden ~~patch~~ areas such as would be found about a lone tree in a pasture. Gobs of white musk-ox wool was scattered hither and yon. The dung of musk-ox is sheep-like, while that of caribou is distinctly deer-like. I am satisfied that the tracks and dung ~~that~~ which I saw at Union Bay were of musk-ox and not caribou as I decided then. With so much evidence of an abundant population of large animals it became somewhat of a wonder why there were none in sight. When I left the beach I headed east into the wind and stopped every few minutes to scan the landscape all around me with binoculars to try to pick up an animal from ~~amid~~ the image of boulders. After a mile or so I was beginning to get discouraged, when I noticed four evenly spaced ~~objects~~ reddish brown or reddish black objects at the mouth of a small grassy valley about two miles to the southeast. They were a different color from all the boulders around them so I sat down to have a better look. Almost immediately two of them ~~moved together~~, so they really were animals.

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C O'Faoldey, Jr.

They were grazing slowly in my direction. Three were of uniform size and the fourth was somewhat smaller, evidently, or probably, a two year old calf. Tho I wasn't close enough to see their horns I was sure that I was looking at musk-oxen because of their size and stocky build. I wanted very much to approach them closely enough to make some photographs but I was due back at the beach in half an hour so I had to start back immediately. I radioed a request to the ship for permission to be left ashore for several more hours to secure the desired photographs, since we weren't due to sail until 0600 in the morning, but it was no soap. Campbell and Sherrell weren't quite thru with their work so I struck inland for ~~two~~ an additional half hour. On the tundra near the base of the mountains I found and killed two white arctic hares. Everybody has kidded me so much about rabbits "running on their hind legs" that I was beginning to wonder myself if I had been seeing things, even tho I seem to remember reading of that peculiarity besides. Anyway these rabbits did run on their hind legs, just as did those I saw in Greenland and at Union Bay. Dr. Soult said those at Fox Bay progressed in an ordinary rabbit fashion and all those I saw at Cape Joy did too, but these Devon Is. rabbits are different. These rabbits hop like any other rabbit when they're not in a hurry, but once they get started someplace fast it's on their hind legs and running instead of hopping. When they stop to look at you, they stand upright too. I would advise any collector in the arctic to be equipped with a rifle with telescope sight,

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for unless he is familiar with the rifle, the ranges are too great to shoot effectively with ordinary peep sights. Also, .30 cal steel jacket bullets aren't much good for rabbit hunting. They pass neatly through the animal and you can see them hit the ground out behind it. These rabbits today were pure white except for black ear tips. Their fur was thick and firm, not at all like that of the animals south of Lancaster Sound which had thin fur which would come out by the handfuls. Neither of these animals was the least bit fat, a peculiar circumstance with winter so near at hand. One was an immature and had the inner surface of the ears somewhat grayish. It measured almost as much as the other but only weighed ~~three pounds~~ ~~two pounds~~ as much. The larger animal weighed nine pounds, by spring scales on the ship! Musk-ox ~~bones~~ skulls and caribou antlers were a common sight on the tundra and I collected a complete musk-ox skull, which appeared to be relatively fresh since the wool and parts of the hide of the animal were still lying amongst the bones and the skull was filled yet with fly pupae cases. Several others seemed to be equally fresh. I wonder if these animals died a natural death or were poached since they are supposed to enjoy complete protection. I didn't follow along the beach any so I don't know whether or not there were any signs of Eskimo visits. Back on the ship at 1700 I skinned the rabbits on the open deck, and since the thermometer was hanging about the freezing point it was necessary for me to go in and thaw out my hands between rabbits. There is no place inside to skin such a bloody mess as a .30 calibered

a few fresh lemming droppings were noted.

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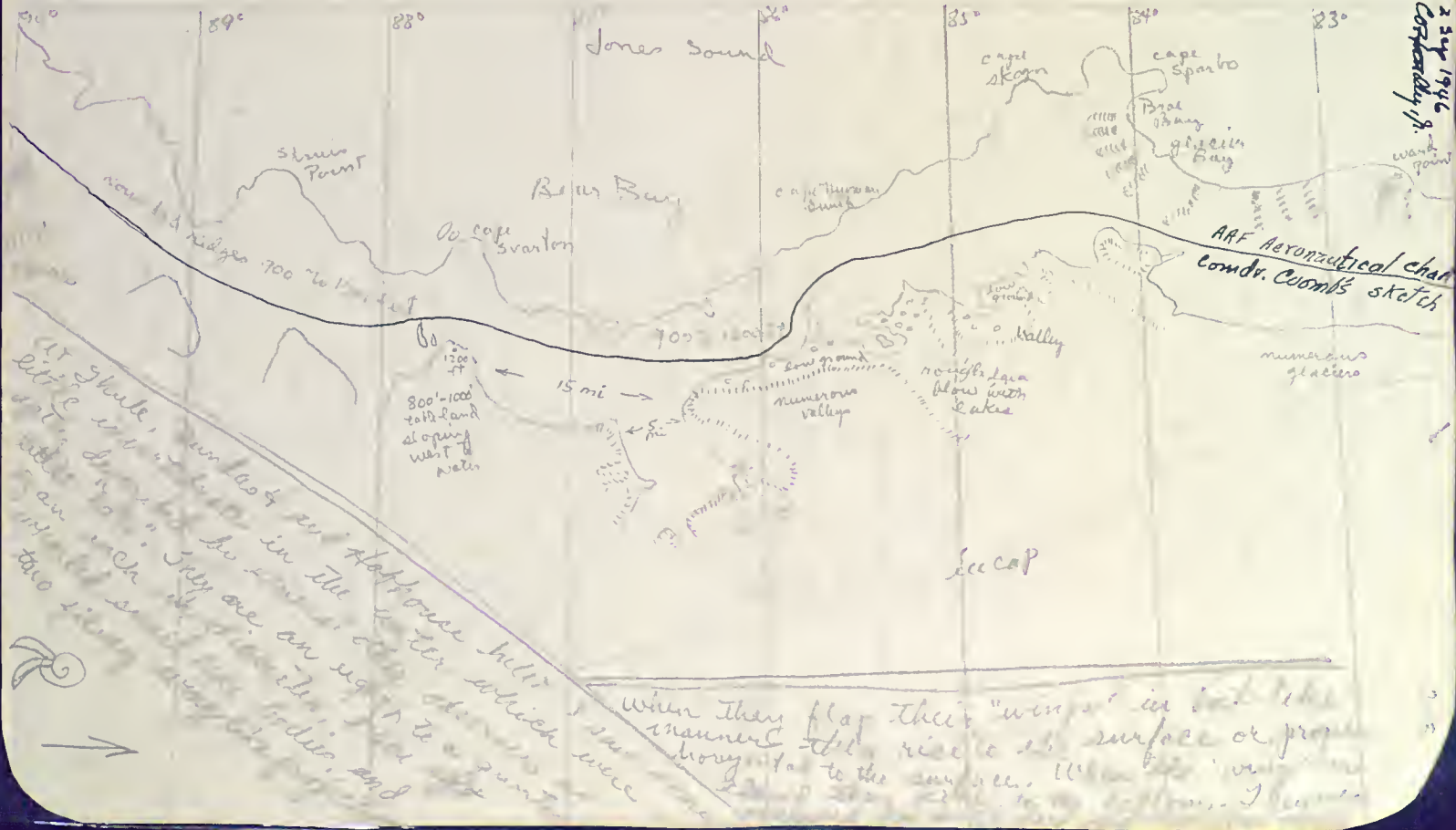
CO Hadley.

rabbit. In the way of birds I saw nothing unusual except a pair of immature longspurs, incidentally this is good nesting territory for them, and a flock of 21 snow geese. There were many white feathers all over the tundra, possibly from snow geese. Red-thr. loons and Old-squaws were numerous on the ponds. I was pleased with the conditions I found at Croker Bay, but that was nothing as compared with this at Brok Bay. Comdr. Coombs made a flight west along the coast during the afternoon and found more and better coastal plain west to 86°. His sketch of the area is reproduced on the following page. He saw no musk-oxen or caribou, but near Cape Skogn saw a flock of about forty snow geese ~~in flight~~ from a lake, ~~at the~~ approach of the airplane, and near cape Ward saw another flock of about 15. Those that I saw were flying eastward but were probably a different flock from either he saw. There was vegetation all along the coast and he thought he saw vegetation on the tableland inland from Cape Svarton but when he dropped down to 100 feet alt. it seemed to be just brown gravel. From about 86° ~~degree~~ eastward the rocks are all black lava. West of there there are light yellowish cliffs, appearing to be sandstone; cliffs of the same ~~sort~~ constitution as seen on the south coast but not so high. Thus, on the south coast the igneous area extends west only to 82°30' while on the north it goes to 86° W. There were no glaciers between Brok Bay and 90°W, ~~but at that point there were several~~. The icecap is about 20 mi. inland at 86°W gradually approaches the coast till it reaches it at Belcher Point. West of 86° it either dissipates or is too far inland to be seen from the coast. Loose ice pack started at about 85° W in some


Jones Sound
cape Skogn
cape Sparbo
Broad Bay
glacier Bay
ward point
Stuart Point
Bear Bay
cape Thorsen
Cape Svarton
ridges 700' to 1200 ft
ARF Aeronautical chart
Comdr. Coombs sketch
700'
1200 ft
800'-1000' table land sloping west to water
15 mi
low ground
numerous valleys
rough lava blow with lakes
valley
numerous glaciers
Eucap
When they flap their "wings" in the manner they recede the surface of prop to the sun.

2 Sept 1946
Continuing -

Sound and the solid pack at about 87°36 W. From there to the west and north it was solid to the horizon. The waters along all this north central coast are shallow and appear greenish from the air and many bays are studded with rocks far out to sea. All of Broe Bay is shallow except in the northern part where we anchored and the bottom is strewn with boulders from glacial wash. Several times I thought the whaleboat was going to capsize when we hit these submerged rocks, but it didn't even knock the bottom out. This, along with the days at Croker Bay, ~~and~~ Port Leopold and Cape Joy will be listed as one of the most memorable of the voyage. During the day the following birds were noted:

0600 - 0700 Jones Sound opposite Belcher Point, thick ice floes. 1 kittiwake, 1 ivory gull, 1 murre, 100 fulmars, 15 seals.

0930 - 1400 in Broe Bay - glaucous gull 200, ivory gull 12, kittiwake 50, fulmar 500

1400 - 1700 ashore Broe Bay, old squaw 28, Red-thr. loon 10, Parasitic jaeger 2, snow goose 2, Lapland longspur 2

Total:

glaucous gull	200	murre	1
ivory gull	13	Old squaw	28 (17, 9, 2)
kittiwake	51	Red-thr. loon	10 (2, 1, 4, 2)
fulmar	600	Snow Goose	76 (21, 40, 15)
Parasitic jaeger	2	Lapland Longspur	2

muskox 4 arctic Hare 2 Harp Seal 1000

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3 Sep 1946 Broe Bay till 0600 then east thru Jones Sound into Baffin Bay. A strong east wind of almost gale proportions has whipped the sea into swells which send spray flying all over the ship at every pitch, but despite the stormy waves the sun was shining all day over the sound, tho the lands on either side were shrouded in fog. The winds have cleared all the ice out of Lancaster Strait and sent it west into the sound.

3 Sep 1946
CO Handley-J.
Wind is the most important factor in the distribution of pack ice, while current is the most important with icebergs. It is said that icebergs will often knife their way thru solid packs and that vessels have proceeded thru packs safely which they might otherwise not have been able to negotiate by attaching an ice anchor to the lee side of a berg and allowing themselves to be towed thru. Radided positions have indicated that the Northwind reached 113° W. and ~~at~~ now returning.

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4 Sep 1946 Mouth of Lancaster Sound and Navy Board Inlet to Fay Bay. I awoke suddenly at 0500 this morning at the clatter of pans and the shattering of dishes. The ship was rolling wildly and with each new roll more pots and pans fell to the deck in the galley and more piles of dishes turned over in the wardroom cupboards. Everything loose fell to the deck in the staterooms: Heide was showered in his bunk by a carton of candy bars and his shoes were filled with cigarette butts and ashes from an ash tray that upset. It seems that we had turned abreast of a "following sea". After an hour or ~~so we~~ turned into Navy Board Inlet and the ship took up its usual pitching again. At the mouth of Fay Bay there were thousands of kittiwakes, more than we have ever seen before. There were both adults and immatures, tho the greater percentage were adults. There were a thousand or more in the harbor itself and large flocks were flying south along the coast. Several flocks were resting on the cliffs at the south ~~entrance~~ side of the harbor entrance. The heavy snowfall of early morning turned to rain about 0830 when we were anchoring and made the rest of the day miserable. The plan is to rest here for a day to get things squared away for sea and the return trip to Boston and then to get underway in the morning if permission is obtained from the Northwind, or from Commander Cruzen that is. It seems that so far on this

4 Sep 1946
C.O. Handley, R.

voyage it has only been so rough on two occasions that they couldn't set the tables here on the whitewood. During the day the following birds were observed:

Kittiwake 7,000+	Old squaw 125
glaucous gull 50	Raven 1 (scavenging on beach)

5 Sep 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. The sun shown for about four hours in the morning so Therrell and Campbell went to the beach to set up an astro station and as usual I went along. Their having to establish these astronomical and magnetic stations at frequent intervals in the eastern arctic has really been fortunate for me, for were it not for this I wouldn't have been ashore a single time, for the commanding officer rightly refuses to allow anyone to go ashore alone. If they knew the ship that I like off alone after I go ashore with Campbell and Therrell, I am quite sure that they wouldn't allow me to go again. There is some danger in a person travelling alone in an uninhabited country and if I were captain I certainly wouldn't allow it. In this case its a matter of necessity tho. ashore at 0900 I helped Campbell and Therrell set up their station and then walked over to the valley just to the east of the bay. I noticed that six nests of glaucous gulls on a rock sticking out of the water were empty but a few nests of Thayer's gulls on the coastal cliffs still contained large young. Immatures of both species were flying about the harbor. In contrast to yesterday there were no kittiwakes in sight. I saw several transient flocks of longspurs in winter plumage (wings have prominent white bars and are more chestnut than rest of body which has a distinct olive cast; call notes a rapid "rattling" ri-di-di-de'," and a whistled "pew". There was a duck hawk perched on the rocks near the Thayers gull

5 Sep. 1946

C. Handley

nests and flew out of sight high over the south side of the bay when I approached it. As the first new bird she added to the list since the Croker Bay trip. Three hundred or more oldsquaws in the bay flew out into the inlet in long scraggly flocks in the late morning and returned in the afternoon. Some of the flocks contained numerous white males. The Eskimos were busy hunting seals in the bay all day and tho they shot several times I don't think they got anything. I should think that ammunition is a sufficiently precious item with them to make missed shots hurt. Several of their dogs hung about the astro sta. all day. They fight over scraps of meat but won't touch bread or crackers. I was amused at one's trying to get the meat juice off a piece of bread without eating the bread. Another one fooled around for awhile with a chunk of musk-ox wool saturated with rabbit blood which I found in my hunting jacket. I was surprised that they ate greedily the vegetables (tomato, potato, beans) left over in the bottom of the jug of soup they brought us for lunch. I thought that they wouldn't recognize anything but meat as food. The Dundas Mounties said that Eskimos never bother with vegetable food. From the amount of scratching these dogs did, fleas must be pretty common in the arctic. I saw a bumblebee the first in several weeks and one fly. Insects of all kinds have been scarce for the past two weeks, and rightly too I suppose since flower blossoms are getting scarce also. At noon the wind changed from the east to the west accompanied by a 10° drop in temperature and great banks of fog billowed into the inlet from Lancaster Sound, blanketing everything.

5 Sep 1946
Thursday

During the day the following birds were observed:

Lapland Longspur 8 (4,1,3)
Duck Hawk 1
Snow Bunting 3 (1,1,1)
Glaucous Gull 25 (15,10)
Thayers Gull 5
Red-thr. Loon 2
Raven 2 (1,1)
Oldsquaw 300+

---

6 Sep 1946 Jay Bay, Bylot Is. until 0620 then east thru Lancaster Sound to Baffin Bay and south on course 120. The fog which came in yesterday persisted thru today and only occasionally were brief glimpses of the Bylot coast caught. We were supposed to make astro stations at two more points on North and East coasts of Bylot and then proceed Boston on Monday, but the captain radioed CTF 68 that our division had been completed because of persistant bad weather and that our ETA Boston was 18 Sept. and so we are on our way home. As far as I could tell thru the fog it appears that there are flat areas of considerable extent along the east coast of Bylot with rugged mountains to the water's edge in between. Nothing could be seen of the north coast and as a matter of fact it has been fogged in every time we passed it. Birds were not very numerous but several fulmars, kittiwakes, dovekies, and murres were seen in Baffin Bay. The surface of the sea was smooth but with big swells and the whitewood had a pretty rolly-poly day of it. I expect we won't be seeing it any calmer the rest of the way on either.

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7 Sep 1946 Anchored SE Bylot Island until 1500 then underway in Baffin Bay on course 120. Position 1200 - anchored 2000 72°52'N, 71°14'W. After I had written my notes up last night we received a dispatch from CTF 68 saying "Stick around a little longer, if no good weather develops by

CO Standley, J.

Monday, will dispatch you south at that time". Needless to say that put a noticable crimp in most motales and the same cruizer came into considerable disfavor. It does seem to be sort of silly to wait around here much longer and rather typifies the poor way in which the entire operation has been handled. The official nickname of the expedition, "Cruisin' with Cruzen" takes on a rather comical aspect at times. After receiving the dispatch we put into the coast of Baffin Island and anchored a few hundred yards off shore in a small unnamed cove. It was such an exposed place that the ship continued to roll with the Baffin Bay swells. It seems that the whitewood is one of the ships that will be used on a proposed Byrd Expedition to the antarctic this winter, and after a short stay in Boston it is to proceed to Charleston, South Carolina for refitting for that cruise. ~~Dovekies were the most numerous birds~~ The fog remained thick throughout the day and only occasionally could the shore be seen a few hundred yards from the ship. Capt. Cruzen. Daly sent another dispatch to CTF 68 requesting detachment and at 1400 confirmation was received. We were underway again at 1500. Out in Baffin Bay the most numerous birds were Dovekies and in flocks of five to ten almost two thousand were counted in half an hour. They are in the midst of the molt; many have cheeks and chin white but still a dark band around the breast, a few are still in summer plumage, and many are in complete fresh winter plumage. Many are apparently unable to fly. One murre was seen accompanied by a very small young bird, even smaller than a dovekie.

Total birds seen:

Dovekie	2000	Kittiwake 5
Fulmar	100	
Murre	2	

210

8 Sep. 1946
[illegible] Jr.

8 Sept. 1946 Baffin Bay - ~~0800~~
Noon position - 71° 44' N, 66° 26' W

We spent much of the day passing thru the Baffin Ice pack from 0500 to 1200. Trying to avoid the thick parts of the pack we were at various times heading west, north, and east as well as south and finally ended up on the east edge of the pack. The ice was not solid and in strands as we have seen in the sounds but of isolated pieces like a patchwork quilt with several yards between each chunk. Outside of the pack we encountered large icebergs in increasing numbers. Just as we were heading into the pack this morning we passed an icebreaker of undetermined nationality coming out. Like us it was flying no ensign and it refused to answer radio signals. As would be expected, the water in the ice was very calm, but outside it was somewhat rougher and toward evening the wind began to mount. There is a bad storm approaching from the south and the aerographers predict winds of 45-50 knots in the next 48 hours. Dovekies were again the most numerous birds tho in lesser numbers than yesterday. An unidentified shorebird flew south past the ship in the afternoon. It wasn't a "peep" had prominent white stripes in wings, and had an unfamiliar call note - it may possibly have been a sandpiper. The few fulmars seen were all immatures, some in fresh immature plumage, others in transition from imm. to ad. plumage - lacking the black tip to the tail, having the wings tipped black like the adult, having the bill black, and the bar across the back of the neck gray instead of black.

Bird totals: fulmar 15 murre 2
dovekie 1000 fulmar 100

9 Sep 1946
C. Handley, Jr.

9 Sep 1946 noon position – 68°17'N, 62°37'W Davis Strait.
I think it must always be rough in Davis Strait: it certainly has been both coming and going on this voyage. Today the sea was filled with hills and valleys and the ship pitched and rolled something awful. They couldn't set the tables for the noon and evening meals. The wave troughs were deep enough so that when the ship was at the bottom of one, the crests were level with the bridge deck. It was overcast much of the day, but toward evening it cleared enough so that the Baffin coast at Cape Dyer was visible in a hazy sort of way. The mountains appeared to be high and snow covered, but not particularly rugged, certainly not anything like the coast of Greenland just across the strait (the strait is too wide to see both coasts at one time). Fulmars were abundant and there were a few dovekies and kittiwakes. Large icebergs, probably from nearby Disko Bay were fairly plentiful. Last night after everybody in the stateroom was already in bed, Joe Hide rushed in with the news that we were passing a glowing red iceberg. Since none of us had ever before seen a red iceberg, there was quite a scramble to get out of bunks and into the wardroom to take a look. Sure enough, there off the starboard bow was a jagged glowing red object. Everybody decided it was a very peculiar iceberg, but it seemed a little too peculiar to me, so I got out my binoculars for a better look. It turned out to be a perfectly good moon, just a little piece of it sticking up above the horizon, and that intermingled by clouds that made it look jagged and something like an iceberg. It had been almost three months since anyone saw the moon, so I guess they had about forgotten there was such a thing. It is black dark now from 10 to 4. Bird totals for day:
fulmar 1000 dovekie 500 kittiwake 50

off Cumberland Sound 10 Sep 1946
C O Handley Jr.

10 Sep 1946 Davis Strait - noon position 65°18'N, 60°17'W course 180°, speed 9.5K. The sea was much calmer today than yesterday and tho the ship continued to roll badly, there was little pitching and that's good because its the pitching that gets you. In the morning it was overcast and foggy but the skys cleared in the evening and there was a beautiful sunset at 1900. Several people reported seeing a large whale spouting about suppertime. Icebergs were few and far between, but there were some large ones. Fulmars were again the most abundant bird. They are all thru molting and are much prettier now than they have been. The whites outnumber the grays about seven to one. all skittiakis seen were immatures molting to adult plumage. about 1800 we passed thru a distinct flight of gulls moving in a southwesterly direction (gulls were going that way too - into the wind). In half an hour 11 were seen, 9 parasitic and two pomarine. For the battles I had my best view to date. The long twisted tail feathers are quite conspicuous and a side view reminds you very much of a purple grackle's tail viewed from the same angle. The elongation of the parasitic's tail is not evident in a side view except at close range, tho it is conspicuous even at quite a distance when the bird banks. On this voyage I have found that a general knowledge of the birds and mammals from all over the world is quite handy. Most of the sailors have been a lot of places that I haven't, and if their questions on the birds of the west coast of North America or India or some other place are answered to their satisfaction, then you're in so far as they are concerned, and they become the very soul of cooperation. It would be ~~quite~~ quite a

12 Sep 1946 Friday
help to review all the animals, even the invertebrates before going into a new area. It's surprising how many sensible questions ensued. There was no fanfare to the southward crossing of the circle which occurred early this morning. Tonight there was a big moon and a lot of stars, the first we have seen in a very long time. There was a slight display of the aurora borealis. Bird totals

Pomarine jaeger	2	murre	1
Parasitic jaeger	9 (2,3,1,1,1,1, one dark)		
Dovekie	200	Fulmar	2,000
~~fulmar~~ kittiwake	200		

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			noon positions
11 Sep. 1946	N. atlantic	off Hudson Str.	61°08'N, 60°23'W
12 Sep. 1946	"	"	60°20'N, 59°15'W
13 Sep. 1946	"	"	60°25'N, 60°57'W

These were three days which I'll never forget and I pray that I'll never have to go thru three more like them. The sea got worse and worse until even some of the ship's officers got seasick. I succumbed for a short time on the 12th myself. At times the waves seemed to be higher than the ship and the winds mounted in fury to a maximum of 55 knots! The barometer dropped to 28.44 min! The ship fought against the waves until noon on the eleventh trying to keep on course, but it was taking such a battering that from then until the afternoon of Friday the thirteenth we forgot about the course and ETA's and headed into the sea. Due to the cyclonic nature of the disturbance we headed at one time or another to all points of the compass, doubled on our course more than once, and were headed due north when we finally took up our course of 150° on the afternoon of the 13th. During those three days not a person slept a wink, for the ship was tossing so violently that it was all you could do to stay in your bunk, much less sleep besides. Nearly all the dishes were broken and the tables couldn't be set at a single meal during the three days. Chairs would not stay right side up in the wardroom and careened back and forth across the deck. Everything not nailed down

13 Feb 1946

down in the staterooms eventually ended in a pile on the deck. The place looked like a thoroughly wolted house. One of the generators broke loose from its moorings in the engine room but was secured again before anyone was injured or further damage was done. At one time all but one of the generators were knocked out by the dirt jogged loose from the insides of the fuel tanks. If that one had gone we would have been in a fix. The waves were mountainous and all white crested with blowing spray. The ship would lurch up the side of one, seemingly at 45°, linger a moment at the top, and then plunge down the other side, leaving your stomach at the top and digging the bow under the next wave. No one was allowed on the forecastle for two days. All the while the ship lurched from side to side in rolls of 40° to 45° and made one tremendous roll of 51°. I wondered if it was going to come back right side up from some of the rolls and I think some of the others did too when the executive officer carried a life jacket to bed with him. And to think that some people pay good money for rides so much shorter and so much less thrilling than this at carnivals! and the ship's officers were demoaning the fact that they were volunteers. I am sure that if I should ever have to choose again between riding the whitewood and walking that I would walk. It'll do things that even a cork won't do. Besides pitching and rolling and yawing it actually bounces. Once early this morning only the bow was in the water and then the whole ship slapped back in with a resounding jar. Some of the waves hit

the sides with such force as to sound like a giant sledge beating the ship, and the moaning of the wind was audible inside as a steady roar. When the storm finally passed north of us and we turned about again on our original course, everyone was thankful, believe me. With all available generators in line, we are making a run for the Straits of Belle Isle before another storm hits us. For the first time on the voyage the Whitehouse is making a good twelve knots — 9.5 was the most before. Before it hit this storm the Northwind was really living up to its name — coming down out of the north like the wind. By breaking 15 knots all the way in, it expected to overcome the five hundred mile start we had on it and arrive in Boston a day ahead of us on the 18th. The Alcoa was to arrive on the 20th. At last report the Northwind was wallowing along at 5K in heavy seas. The first day of the blow I stayed on the bridge the entire day but didn't see much — one small finback whale — 20-30 ft. long, and a few murres which appeared not to be Brunnich's. On the morning of the 13th the officer of the deck reported that two sparrow-sized and appearing birds came aboard and remained in the lee of some oil drums lashed down on the forecastle for half an hour before proceeding on their way. The following is the list of birds observed on the 11th:

fulmar 500 — common murre 10
Leach's 20

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14 Sep 1946 N. Atlantic off coast of Labrador; noon position 56°26'N, 57°05'W; course 150°; speed 12.5 K. Today we continued to steam toward Belle Isle Straits under forced draft to reach shelter before another storm arrives. We have for several days been watching the progress of a severe hurricane moving up the

14 Sep 1946
Continuing of

the east coast, and fearing that we might get caught in it. Today we learned that it was to swing inland across Long Island tonight, so I suppose we'll only catch the after effects of it. The sea was relatively smooth today and despite a normal amount of rolling and an overcast sky, it was pleasant sailing. The biggest list of birds observed at sea at any time during the voyage was made today. There were the first southern birds of the return journey - greater shearwaters, one new bird for my life list - skua, two migrant landbirds - pipit and redpoll(?) Kittiwakes were the most conspicuous birds, mostly imm. in transition to ad. plumage, in larger than usual numbers; both in the familiar small scraggly flocks and in large compact flocks of as many as 30 individuals. Most of the flocks were accompanied by one or several jaegers, and aerial dogfights were numerous, both between jaegers and gulls and between jaegers and jaegers. The skua seen was in pursuit of a pomarine jaeger. Two northern phalaropes seen at different times during the day sit on the water near the ship; a small, brown land bird with a conspicuously forked tail (possibly a red-poll) flew close to the ship in a southerly direction but did not stop; while two pipits a little while later flew close to the ship, and one stopped for several minutes. As it flew round and round the ship trying to get up courage to land, it gave its familiar "pee-dee" call note continuously. Finally it sit on the forecastle. Both pipits were moving southward (as were most other birds during the day) and one joined a flock of kittiwakes which seemed to resent its company and finally chased it from their midsts. The following observations were made during the day:

14 Sep 1946
CO Handley, J.

0700 2 jaegers reported by comdr. Heide

0800-0900 100 fulmars, 200 kittiwakes, 1 redpoll (?)

0900-1000 100 fulmars, 2 gr. shearwaters, 100 kittiwakes, 2 pipits, 1 northern phalarope

1100-1200 3 pomarine jaegers (1 dark), 1 murre, 25 kittiwakes, 100 fulmars, 2 gr. shearwaters.

1300-1400 1 parasitic jaeger (dark), 3 murres, 50 fulmars, 50 kittiwakes

1400-1500 4 pomarine jaegers, 5 parasitic jaegers, 1 skua, 200 kittiwakes, 25 fulmars, 3 murres

1500-1600 4 pomarine jaegers, 8 parasitic jaegers, 1 northern phalarope, 380 kittiwakes, 100 fulmars, 1 arctic tern, 3 gr. shearwaters.

(several jaegers in afternoon groups dark phase)

totals:

fulmar	500	northern phalarope	2
gr. shearwater	7	arctic tern	1
pomarine jaeger	11	murre	7
parasitic jaeger	14	pipit	2
skua	1	redpoll (?)	1
kittiwake	875		

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15 Sep 1946 Straits of Belle Isle; noon position - 51°54'N, 55°44'W course south; speed 12 k. sea white capped to calm; wind 5 to 30 k.; clear and sunny in forenoon, hurricane clouds in afternoon. We were exactly 1000 nautical miles from Boston at 0700 this morning as we approached the straits of Belle Isle. Discounting unforseen circumstances we should arrive at Boston around noon on Thursday the 19th, our original ETA, despite the 48 hours without headway. We entered the straits at 0900, were opposite the South end of Belle Isle at 1200, passed thru narrowest part of strait (6 mi.) at 1600, and passed out of strait at 1800. Apparently the hurricane is going to pass by to the east of us and not give us any trouble. The winds were very disagreeable today but otherwise the day was perfect. I was happy to see the bright green of the meadows and the dark green of the spruce patches on Labrador's mountains for in the arctic even thickly vegetated areas appear brown from a distance. The southeast coast of Labrador from Battle Harbor around to the Quebec boundary is not at all like the stern and forbidding coast that I had visualized from reading. Its mountains are rather high but they are rounded and cliffs are not particularly frequent; there are many bright green meadows, and especially

15 Sep 1946
C O Handley - R.

away from the immediate coast there are many patches of spruce. There are frequent lighthouses and small settlements along the shore, but that is a more conspicuous feature of the Newfoundland shore. There almost every cove seems to possess a settlement. The north tip of Newfoundland is all flat except for the mountainous extreme northeast corner; mountains are also visible to the south of the strait on the larger part of Newfoundland. The shore along the strait is bordered by an unbroken wall of spruces, starting inland a few hundred yards across beach and muskeg from the water's edge. I had pictured the strait as being rugged and rock bound and a haven for sea birds but it certainly wasn't. However, there were enough birds to run up the largest total for a day at sea during the voyage. There were a few fulmars at the northern entrance; all the rest of the birds were seen throughout. There was one tremendous flock of kittiwakes which I estimated at twenty-five thousand: for a few minutes there were kittiwakes as far as you could see in every direction; mostly sub-adults, with a few imm. but no adults. The other gulls were following the ship - ~~sometimes~~ once there were four species in train at one time. A pomarine jaeger followed the ship for some time and I got excellent close up views of it. On the water its tail reached just a fraction beyond the wing tips; the parasitic is noticeably shorter and the long-tailed's is conspicuously longer. Having had excellent opportunity to study all three species, I see that they are easily identified even at considerable range by the tail feathers, except in immatures and moulting adults.

Conversely I believe that petrels are hard

15 Sept 1946
C O'Handley Jr.

to distinguish even at close range. There were only a few icebergs aground in the straits. We passed numerous ships. The Northwind passed us sometime last night or the day before, for today she was far to the south of us. The following observations were made during the day:

0730-0800 off Battle Harbor, Lab. - Fulmar 3, kittiwake 5

0800-0900 Fulmars 10, kittiwake 25, no. phalarope 31 (2, 25, 2, 1, 1); murre 2, arctic tern 2

0900-1000 north entrance of Strait of Belle Isle - no. phalarope 50, fulmar 2

1000-1100 parasitic jaeger 3, no. phalarope 10, herring gull 15, kittiwake 2

1100-1200 opposite S. end of Belle Isle - 9 puffins, 3 gannets, 5 herring gulls, 2 no. phalaropes

1330-1400 1 skua, 5 parasitic jaegers, 2 puffins, 3 murres, 2 black-backed gulls, 25 no. phalaropes, 19 gannets, 4 kittiwakes, 1 herring gull

1400-1500 16 puffins, 25,000 kittiwakes, 4 black-backed gulls

1500-1600 1 puffin, 10 herring gulls, 100 kittiwakes, 5 black-backed gulls.

1600-1700 in narrowest part of strait - 1 puffin, 2 pomarine jaegers, 5 black-backed gulls, 10 herring gulls, 1 ring-billed gull (im.), 2 kittiwakes

Totals:

Fulmar	15	skua	1			kittiwake	25,000
						arctic tern	2
North. phalarope	118	gr. black-backed gull	16			gannet	27
pomarine jaeger	2	herring gull	41			murre	5
parasitic jaeger	8	ring-b. gull	1			puffin	29

16 Sep 1946
Cortlandby, J

16 Sep 1946 Gulf of St. Lawrence and Cabot Str.
noon position - 48°15'N 54°40'W Today was one of the most completely disappointing of the whole voyage. Expecting to see lots of birds, I spent most of the day on the bridge. Total for day: 5 herring gulls and 1 black-headed gull. It was warm and sunny, the first completely sunny day in a long while, and it was comfortable on deck in shirt sleeves. We have noticed it becoming uncomfortably warm inside the past couple of days. In Cabot Strait between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia we saw many fishing schooners and there was a beautiful sunset over St. Paul's Island. It was too hazy to tell much about the character of S. Newfoundland during the day except that the mountains were high, seemingly barren, and the coast line was much cliffed. There was a nice display of northern lights tonight - yellow, green, and red.

Sidney Nova Scotia was set up about like Coney Island. We saw the first lightning of the voyage and went thru a thunder shower.

17 Sep 1946 N. Atlantic off Nova Scotia; noon position - 44°35'N 60°19'W Today again it was sunny and calm the whole day long. I spent most of the

17 Sep 1946
CO Handley, J.

day getting gear and specimens packed and crated, and so didn't have much chance to observe birds. I did note a few greater shearwaters, Leach's petrels, and herring and great black-backed gulls. The OD reported that a small brown sparrow-like bird came aboard for a few minutes in the afternoon. I noticed a school of about a dozen dolphins playing in the bow wake of the ship for a few minutes this afternoon. They were chocolate brown above and buffy brown below with a sharp line of demarcation between. Occasionally they jumped completely clear of the water. One that was accompanied by a fourth-grown young one which kept close by her side kept more or less apart from the main group. We passed numerous fishing vessels. Bird Totals:

Greater Shearwater	10
Leach's Petrel	50
Gannet	1
Gr. Black-backed gull	1
Herring gull	10

18 Sep 1946 Gulf of Maine - noon position - 42° 50' N 68° 05' W. If the other days of late have been lovely, certainly this has: Water calm, sun bright, no wind, and warm enough for sunbathing on deck. The day was characterized by the sighting of migrating

18 Sep 1946
C O Handley Jr

land birds, and indeed, their numbers almost equaled those of sea birds. First, about 0800, and when we were about 80 miles SW of Nova Scotia, a sparrow hawk came aboard and lit on the radar screen atop the mainmast. After resting and preening itself for about ten minutes it flew on in a southwesterly direction. Just before noon, two pigeon hawks were sighted, and one came aboard and caught a small brown bird thought to have been a sparrow. It flew off grasping the bird in its talons and reaching down and tearing feathers off with its beak. It progressed by alternate flaps and sails, and after making a wide circle over the sea, returned to the ship with the bird almost eaten. Apparently only the back bone and a short dangling length of intestine. It lit on the forecastle rail picked on the remains a few times and then flew away southwestward, dropping the carcass as it went. I had never expected to get my best view of a pigeon hawk a hundred miles at sea. After dinner a Lincoln's Sparrow and a red-br. nuthatch appeared on board. The nuthatch was very active, and the sight of it busily climbing up and down the mainmast in search of insects, and doing acrobatics on the halyards were

18 Sep 1976
C. Handley, J.

peculiar, to say the least. It several times flew off a few hundred yards and then returned to the ship, but it soon flew out of sight in a westerly direction. The Lincoln's sparrow on the other hand seemed nearly exhausted and probably could have been easily captured. It paid no heed to the sailors working only a few feet away as it opened lumber stacks and sat drum piles or rested on the rail. It made several long flights in a SW direction but always returned to the ship. It finally disappeared for good around mid afternoon. Later a sharp-shinned hawk flew close to the ship on a SW course but did not land. It was travelling by flaps and sails much as did the pigeon hawks. It seems plausible that this progression by flaps and sails would carry the bird much further with less fatigue than the steady flight which the sparrows and other land birds are obliged to employ. As the weather was good, it seems likely that a major migration route crosses the gulf of Maine from Nova Scotia to the cape Cod area, & this was a regular routine flight for these birds.

18 Sep 1946
CO Handley Jr

Totals for 18 Sep.:

Pigeon Hawk	2	Northern Phalarope	2
Sparrow Hawk	1	Greater Shearwater	10
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Wilson's Petrel	120
Red-Br. Nuthatch	1	Herring gull	21
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	parasitic jaeger	1

19 Sep 1946 Boston, Mass. The ship's schedule was set ahead one hour today in preparation for docking so we breakfasted at 0600 off Deer Island. The rest of the morning was spent idling in President Roads, waiting for a pilot, and it wasn't until 1100 that we tied up at pier 3, Charlestown Navy Yard, next to the Northwind. I visited the Northwind before lunch and learned that she had docked at 0800 on the 17th and that Al and all the other observers had already departed. I got my train reservation and moved my gear to South Sta. via taxi. It was unbearably hot, and I was glad to leave Boston at 2300 on the Federal. The following birds were observed in the harbor:

Herring gull	1000	Pigeon	10
Ringbilled gull	25	~~English Sparrow~~	
Laughing gull	25	small sandpiper	2
Cormorant	25		

Photographs

roll #7

5 mt. at W. of Dundas H. 24 July

6 from sea looking N. at glacier at head of D.H. "

roll #8

1 same as 6 above "

2 glacier just E of D.H. site of Marine camp "

3 NW toward D.H. - "Landmark peak" "

4 looking NE to Cape [illegible] "

5 " Along E coast of Devon mouth of Lancaster S. "

6 E. shore of Devon, looking toward Bathurst Inlet to N. "

roll #12

4 looking NE across Cape Dalton St Devon "

5 Mt Dundas, Thule guidelands 1 aug

* Birds new to me

Date / Position at Noon	July 5 Boston	6 42°34'-65°26'	7 45°34'-56°23'	8 48°11'-51°09'	9 52°20'-55°53'	10 52°52'-55°57'	11 61°03'-51°06'	12 63°40'-55°01'	13 66°26'-55°08'	14 69°15'-55°28'	15 71°30'-58°23'	16 74°35'-63°26'	17 73°44'-65°12'	18 73°52'-57°30'	19 73°37'-58°32'	20 75°25'-55°21'	21 75°41'-68°10'	22 76°41'-78°52'	23 Dundas Harbor	24 Dundas Harbor	27 Dundas Harbor	28 Dundas Harbor	29 Dundas Harbor	30 Lancaster Sound	Aug 2 Thule	3 Thule	4 Thule
Red-thr. Loon																			1	1					2		3
* Black-thr. Loon																				1			1				
* Sooty Shearwater		7	30	2																							
* Greater Shearwater		253	345	25	890	3																					
Atlantic Fulmar		1	3	2	1100	104	200	201	75	129	19	35	8	13	2	7	125	580	300	200	5000	1000	100	2000	50		
* Leach's Petrel		3	161	176	24	6																					
Wilson's Petrel	300	73																									
Gannet		1																									
Double-cr. Cormorant	40																										
* American Brant																			12								
Snow Goose																											
Old-Squaw																			9	4		10	15		8		1
* ~~Northern~~ ~~American~~ Eider																		2(?)	12	50	110	30	48		14	67	500
* King Eider										17									19	25							
* Kellogg's Ptarmigan																									9		2
* Ringed Plover																			14	10		2	5		2	7	1
Golden Plover																											2
Black-bellied Plover																											
Ruddy Turnstone										2																	
Knot																									15		6
* Purple Sandpiper																											
* Bairds Sandpiper																			9	15							1
* Sanderling																										1	
* Red-phalarope					16		1	1																	2		
* Northern Phalarope					16						7																
* Pomarine Jaeger												5					1		2								3
* Parasitic Jaeger	1	2							2	2						1											
* Long-tailed Jaeger																		3							1	9	1
* Glaucous Gull																	2	4	7	10	3	3	6		11	7	40
Great Black-backed Gull	8	1																									
Herring Gull	500	22																									
* Thayer's Gull																		23	56	20	10	5		15			
Ring-billed Gull	5																										
* Ivory Gull																								3			
Kittiwake					4	1	16	83	70	80	60	114	35	61	13	26	42	240			10			200	25	25	300
* Sabines Gull											7																
* Arctic Tern	3(?)	4(?)									43	4		25	2										10/12		
* Razor-billed Auk										1																	
* Atlantic Murre			3		2	1	25	2	8	23																	
* Brunnich's Murre										2	189	86	26	140	12	65	765	545		2	25	5	3	200	8		
* Dovekie								2	2	6	10	29	47	50			12,100	50							200		
* Mandt's Guillemot								x	x	x	4			3		4	4	5		1			2	10	5		
* Puffin			3																								
Rock Dove	1																										
Horned Lark																							1				
Raven																				3					1		
* Greenland Wheatear																									7		1
English Sparrow	1																										
* Redpoll																									1		
Lapland Longspur																			3				8		8	1	12
Snow Bunting																			40	25		25	50		303	25	64
Duck Hawk																											
* Skua																											
Pipit																											
Sparrow hawk																											
Pigeon Hawk																											
Sharp-shinned hawk																											
red-br. Nuthatch																											
Lincoln's sparrow																											
Laughing Gull																											

Date / Position at Noon	Aug 9 Lancaster Sound	10 Lancaster Sound	11 L.S. and Admiralty In.	12 Dundas Harbor	13 Dundas Harbor	14 Dundas Harbor	15 Croker Bay	16 Dundas Harbor	18 Tay Bay	19 Tay Bay	20 Navy Board Inlet	21 Lancaster Sound	22 Union Bay	23 Lancaster Sound	24 Port Leopold	27 Cape Joy	28 Lancaster Sound	29 Lancaster Sound	30 [illegible] Inlet	31 Hobhouse Inlet	Sept 2 Back Bay	4 Tay Bay	5 Tay Bay	7 off SE Bylot I.	8 71°44'-66°[illegible]	9 68°17'-61°37'	10 65°18'-60°11'	11 61°08'-60°[illegible]	14 56°26'-57°8'	15 Straits of Belle Isle	16 Gulf of St. Lawrence	17 Off Nova Scotia	18 Gulf of Maine	19 Boston Harbor
Red-thr. Loon				4	12	4	60	3		2			1		4	1					10		2											
* Black-thr. Loon																2																		
* Sooty Shearwater																													7			10	10	
* Greater Shearwater																																		
Atlantic Fulmar	12	43	220	65	10,000		1000		100	100	14	84	80	100	500	20	600	140	620	50	600			100	800	100	2000	300	500	15		50		
* Leach's Petrel																																	120	
Wilson's Petrel																																		
Gannet																														22		1		
Double-cr. Cormorant																																		25
* American Brant																22					76													
Snow Goose				5																														
Old-Squaw				100			162		200		3				1						28	125	300											
* ~~Northern~~ ~~American~~ Eider				4		1	33			12			20		16	7			5	5														
* King Eider							5									1005	50																	
* Kellogg's Ptarmigan																																		
* Ringed Plover						3		1		2																								
Golden Plover																																		
Black-bellied Plover							1																											
Ruddy Turnstone		1																																
Knot																																		
* Purple Sandpiper							2						2																					
* Bairds Sandpiper							25	7					3		1	1																		
* Sanderling																																		
* Red-phalarope																		1											2	118			2	
* Northern Phalarope																											2		11	2				
* Pomarine Jaeger							10						2		11	1			14	5	2						9		14	8			1	
* Parasitic Jaeger																																		
* Long-tailed Jaeger																																		
* Glaucous Gull				63	75	5	23	16	25	19			2		13		6		45	116	200	50	25							16	1	1		
Great Black-backed Gull																														41	5	10	21	1000
Herring Gull																																		
* Thayer's Gull			3	16	50	50	1	10	5	20	4		16		1	1	5			2			5							1				25
Ring-billed Gull																																		
* Ivory Gull															1						13													
Kittiwake		1	2	14					10	3	91	7	50	3	750	25	25	30	14	2	51	7,000		5	15	50	300	800	875	2200				
* Sabines Gull															1														1	2				
* Arctic Tern							5						2																					
* Razor-billed Auk																												10	7	5				
* Atlantic Murre																																		
* Brunnich's Murre	13	9	4	3	10	1	1		500	25	135	156		2	1		100	60	2		1			2	2		1							
* Dovekie											2	2					2000	835	185					2000	1000	500	200							
* Mandt's Guillemot	1				25	15				1		13	21	10	110	3	25		400	100										29				
* Puffin																																		10
Rock Dove																																		
Horned Lark					2																													
Raven					1	1		1		3												1	2											
* Greenland Wheatear																																		
English Sparrow																													1(?)					
* Redpoll					2(?)																													
Lapland Longspur				1	1		2														2		8											
Snow Bunting				35	23	48	55	20		5			1		10	23			2				3											
Duck Hawk																							1											
* Skua																													1	1				
Pipit																													2					
Sparrow hawk																																	1	
Pigeon Hawk																																	2	
Sharp-shinned hawk																																	1	
red-br. Nuthatch																																	1	
Lincoln's sparrow																																	1	
Laughing Gull																																		25

5 July 1946 Boston, Mass (42°23'N 70°54'W at 1200 to 42°43.5'N 68°42'W at 2000). Gulf of Maine

17 observations	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1645	1715	1730	1745	1800	total
herring gull	3	10	9	21	88	150+	2	4	1	4	6	8		–				306
gr. black-backed gull			3	2		2			1					–				8
Wilson's petrel	3	24+	4	5	6	18	1	19	26	9	1	75+	1	–	1	1	16	210
parasitic jaeger												1		–				1
Sterna sp.																3		3
domestic pigeon	1													–				1
finbacked whale						1								–				1

out of sight of land →

5 July 1946

6 July 1946 off Nova Scotia E. coast (43°11'N - 64°58'W at 0800; 43°34'N - 63°46'W at 1200; 44°14'N - 61°20'W at 2000) (from near Cape Sable to near Sable Island)

39 observations	0700	0800	0815	0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	1715	1745	1800	1815	1830	1845	1900	1915	total
wilson's Petrel ✓			-		-			1	-	1	1	4	1	6	6	4	13	-		1	1	3					3	4	6	2		2	2			3	4	3	3	74
Leach's petrel ✓			-		-				-									-				1	1																	2
greater shearwater ✓			-		-				-									-		1	1						2	2	2	2	6	50	75+	15	10	30	5	25	20	246
sooty shearwater ✓			-		-			3	-							1		-							1						2									7
corys shearwater (?) ✓			-		-				-									-													2									2
gannet ✓			-	1	-				-									-																						1
herring gull ✓	1	2	-	3	-	5	8		-									-	4							1				1	1									26
great black-backed gull ✓			-		-				-									-													1									1
arctic tern (?) ✓			-		-				-							1		-									1				2									4
parasitic jaeger ✓			-		-				-									-										3												3
fulmar (?) ✓			-		-				-							1		-																						1
dolphin ✓			-		-				-									-						6												4				10

several gulls followed the ship in AM and a few shearwaters were noted. In PM shearwaters were abundant. Petrels a few all day. The composite count is presumably less accurate than yesterday, for the shearwaters appear to stick with the ship more than the gulls that dominated yesterday's count. relative abundance ~~or~~ at least relative conspicuousness are well illustrated, however.

7 July 1946 off Cabot Strait (45°15'N - 57°38'W at 0800; 45°34'N - 56°23'W at 1200; 46°05'N - 54°18'W at 2000).

36 observations	0800	0815	0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	1830	total
Leach's petrel	4	4	1	3	1	3	2	12	4	5	2		1	3	3	4	2	4	12	15	10	15	4	2	1	5	10	5	3	5	3	-	5	3	2	158
sooty shearwater		1		1		3	5	5		1		2				3					2	1	2				1					-			1	28
greater shearwater	5			1	7	12	40	20	2	50			20		3	2	2	3	10	8	30	20	15	1		10	25		10	25		-	10		2	333
Cory's shearwater (?)	1																															-				1
fulmar						1		1									1															-				3
dolphin (reported by crew)								3																								-				3
																																-				

a few Leach's petrels were almost always in sight and every few minutes we passed flocks of greater shearwaters with a few sooties mixed in. They often wheeled near the ship. ~~Not~~ fulmars were seen - no gulls.

8 July 1946 off east coast Newfoundland (47°31'N-52°21'W at 0800; 48°11'N-51°59'W at 1200; 49°33'N-51°12'W at 2000) turned cape Race at 0207 and were off St. Johns at 0800 - Only 10 mi. off coast at this point.

31 observations	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	total
Leach's petrel	2	3	15	25	9	10	9	10	7	4	10	3	2	-	3	1	3	3	3	3	2	1	5	5	5	10	5	2	1	5	10	175
greater shearwater								12						-	3		3	1		2				2							2	25
sooty shearwater														-											1				1			2
fulmar		1												-																1		2
Atlantic murre										2				-											1					3		3
puffin							1	1		1				-																		3
dolphin														-				1														1

first iceberg

Leach's petrels were the bird of the hour - almost constantly in sight. Other kinds were definitely scarce. From point of individual numbers this was poorest bird day to this point. Totals show relative conspicuousness not actual numbers of individuals - the same birds may have been counted in several consecutive observation periods.

9 July 1946 200 mi off Belle Isle Str. (51°40'N – 50°54'W at 0800; 52°20'N–50°53'W at 1200; 53°50'N–50°51'W at 2000)

31 observations	0800	0815	0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1115	1130	1145	1200	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	total
Leach's petrel				2		1	1	1	2			1		2								2	3	1	1		3	2	1	1		24
greater shearwater			1	100	150	100	200	75	25	10	10	12	16	71	20	40	8	1	2	17	20	5	5	5	1	5	10	10	2	3		924
fulmar	4	1	4	10	25	50	25	50	30	20	60	25	16	15	200	10	2	15	8	2	14	75	5	25	10	20	10	29	100	50	200	1110 (10,000 est.)
Atlantic murre																					2											2
red phalarope																													3	13		16
northern phalarope													16																			16
kittiwake					1	2																								1		3
Balaenoptera	1																															1
Globicephala															15																	15

The best bird day to date. Fulmar was the bird of the hour, being always in sight. There was little wind and more birds were seen on the water than in the air.

10 July 1946. Labrador Sea, midway between Belle Isle + Cape Farewell

15 observations	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1300–1600	2000	(56°06–50°43.5' at 0800; 56°52'–50°51' at 1200; 58°23'–51°05' at 2000) total
Leach's petrel		1	1	1				3								6
greater shearwater			1			1			1							3
fulmar	3	1	6	5	3	8	4	5	4	6	4	5	10	40		104
atlantic murre								1								1
kittiwake													1			1
whale															2	2

all in all this was the poorest day to date for birds. Nothing of especial interest was noted.

10 July 1946

11 July 1946. West coast of Greenland - 60 mi. off Frederikshaab (60°25′ – 50°47′ at 0800; 61°03′ – 51°06 at 1200; 61°58′ – 52°42′ at 2000)

22 observations	0400	0415	0430	0445	1000	1015	1045	1115	1130	1200	1300	1330	1400	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1630	1645	1700	2100	total
fulmar ✓	5	4	3	4	5	–	–	–			8	4	10	10	7	2	2	2	5	10	5		81 (est. total 200)
atlantic murre ✓	1				1	–	–	–		3	3	2	2		3		2	2		3	3		25
kittiwake ✓						–	–	–	1												15		16
red phalarope ✓						–	–	–			1												1
whale						–	–	–															1
seal ✓						–	–	–														1	1

← in ice floes →

several noticeable changes in birdlife today. Petrels & shearwaters dropped out. There were more kittiwakes and murres. Fulmars about the same as day before.

11 July 1946

12 July 1946. W. coast of Greenland, 70 mi. off Godhaab (63°22.5'-54°56.5' at 0800; 63°40'-55°05' at 1200, 64°41'-54°36' at 2000)

27 observations	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1180	1300	1315	1330	1345	1430	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1830	1915	1930	1945	2000	total
fulmar ✓	3	4	2	1	3	2	2	4	2	4	5	3	3	7	3	10		1	3	11	13	7	10	11	36	23	28	201
kittiwake ✓	9	10		1		1	3				1				3	20		1	11		2		12		1	5	3	83
atlantic murre																1						1						2
dovekie																	2											2
red phalarope ✓																									1♂			1

fulmars most conspicuous & abundant species. Kittiwakes more in evidence than on previous dates.

12 July 1946

13 July 1946 Davis Str., 30 mi. off Holsteinborg (66°12'N – 54°53'W at 0800; 66°26'N – 55°09'W at 1200; 66°57'N – 55°23'W at 2000)

19 obs.	0830	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1330	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	
fulmar ✓	3	–	–	7	6	2	–	1	–		2		8	5	5	10	10	6	6	71
parasitic jaeger ✓																	1		1	2
kittiwake ✓				1		2				1	1	8	1	1	4	17	13	9	12	70
dovekie				2																2
Atlantic murre				3	2					1	1						2		1	10

13 July 1946

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is. (68°39'-56°11' at 0800, 69°15'-56°28' at 1200, 70°20'-57°12' at 2000)

36 Observation	0100	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	1715	1800	1815	1830	1845	1900	
fulmar	✓	–	1	6	5	8	5	4	3	2	3	2	1	–	3	9	3	3	8	2	8	3	1	8	3	3	–	8	3	8	5	133
kittiwake	✓													–		1		1			1			5	4		–	5	1			80
parasitic jaeger	✓	1(?)												–													–					2
atlantic murre	✓		1	2	2									–		2		1		3	1			1		5	–	1	1	2		49
Brunnich's murre	✓													–				2									–					2
dovekie	✓						3	1																			–	2				6
ruddy turnstone	✓				2																						–					2
razor-b. auk	✓		1																								–					1
king eider																											–					17

13 iceberg; 14 iceberg; 17 iceberg; .85 iceberg

	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	2245
fulmar	~~1~~ 7		1	–	1	6
kittiwake			1	50	11	
parasitic jaeger		1				
atlantic murre	1		1			25
king eider						17

Birds were neither varied nor numerous. On two occasions large flocks of birds thought to be murres were noted on icebergs but were too far away for certain identification. Following the landward movement of kittiwakes yesterday, none were seen until noon today.

14 July 1946

15 July 1946. Baffin Bay, 45 mi. of Upernivik (71°47'-57°56' at 0800; 72°30'-58°23' at 1200; 73°26'-58°45' at 2000)

29 Obs.	0845	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1545	1600	2100	2115	2130	2145	
fulmar ✓		1		1			2			1	1	1	1	1		1	2		–		1		2	1	–	2	1			1	20
Brunnich's murre ✓				5	14	3			5	3	3		2	3	2	2	1	1	–	5		3			–	4	3	16	30	6	111
dovekie ✓			4	5															–						–			1			10
guillemot ✓			1													1			–						–			2			4
kittiwake ✓	17	1	2	41	5	15	1		4		2				1				–						–						89
Sabine's gull ✓								7											–						–						7
arctic tern ✓								15	12		15								–			1			–						43
northern phalarope ✓																7			–						–						7
seal ✓				4															–						–						4

127 icebergs in sight

murres were the birds of the day. They were everywhere; on the water, flying, feeding, and playing.

15 July 1946

16 July 1946. Baffin Bay, about 100 mi. SE Cape York (74°33'-63°29' at 0800; 74°45'-63°20' at 1200; 74°17'-61°24' at 2010)

28 obs.	0015	0415	0430	0445	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1315	1330	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	1715	1930	1945	2000	2015	2030	2045	2400	total	obs
fulmar		4	3	4	3	3	4	1	1		2			1			1	1		2	1			2	1		5		39	17
kittiwake		2	3		6	7	2	3	2	1	4	6			2	2	3			1	15	50	4	1		1	1		116	20
pomarine jaeger													1			2	4												7	
Brünnich's murre	8	7	4	3		13	8		1		1			1	1	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	1	7	1	7	1	7	85	23
dovekie			12		2					5					2					2					6				29	
arctic tern					4																								4	
seal																				2									2	

16 July 1946

17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik (73°43'-61°12' at 0800; 73°44'-61°10' at 1200; 73°42'-60°48' at 200)

12 obs.	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1545	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	
fulmar	-	-	1	1	~~1~~	~~1~~		2	2		1	8
kittiwake	-	-	1	1	1	10	4	10	3	5		35
Brunnich's murre	-	-				3	5	10	5	2	1	26
dovekie	-	-		15		1		2	29			47
seal	-	-				4						4

17 July 1946

18 July 1946	Baffin Bay, 100 mi. NW Upernivik (73°48'-59°06' at 1010; 73°53'-59°30' at 1200; 73°56'-58°57' at 2000)																			
20 obs.	0945	1000	1015	1030	1200	1215	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1615	2030	2130	2145	
fulmar		1					1	2	2			1	–		2	5				2	13
kittiwake					1				1	1			–	1	2			50	5		61
arctic tern									25				–								25
guillemot	1												–				2				3
Brunnich's murre	4	17	7	11	6	13	4	15	2	2	2	1	–	3	2	9			21	21	140
dovekie						2		17	5	12			–		2	3			7		50

18 July 1946

19 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi. NW Upernavik (72°57'-58°20' at 0800; 73°17'-58°32' at 1200; 73°36'-58°37' at 2000)

.10 obs.	1000	1430	1445 to 1515	1530	1545	1600	1930	2100	
fulmar			–		1			1	2
kittiwake			–		2	1	8		11
arctic tern	2		–						2
Brünnich's murre		2	–	1	1	9		5	18

19 July 1946

20 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi NW Upernivik (73°26′ – 58°51′ at 0800; 73°28′ 58°29′ at 1200; 73°39′ – 59°05′ at 2000)

8 Obs.	1115	1130	1145	1200	1800	1930	1945	2345	
Brunnich's murre	—	11	23	10	–	10	5	6	65
guillemot	—	2		1	–		1		4
fulmar	–	1	1		–		5		7
parasitic jaeger	—				–	1			1
kittiwake	—				–	1	20	5	26

20 July 1946

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 20 mi off Cape York (75°08'-65°41' at 0800; 75°41'-68°10' at 1200; 75°39'-73°05' at 2000)

27 Obs.	0900	0915	0930	0945	1000	1015	1030	1045	1100	1115	1130	1145	1200	1215	1315	1330	1345	1415	1430	1445	1500	1530	1545	2015	2030	2045	2100	
fulmar				1			2	1		1	3	3			10	25	10	10	5	5	10	10	15	3		5	5	124
kittiwake			1								5		1				1	2	25		2	2			1	1	1	42
glaucous gull																					2							2
pomarine jaeger			1																									1
brünnich's murre	10	20	25	25	25	15	25	35	30	25	50	75	100	50	25	100	25	20	10	10	5	15	10	5	5	10	15	705
dovekie	50	1000+	750	300	250	1400	400	800	100	150	300	500	2100+	1000	300	800	600	550	250	200	100	375	300	10	5	10		12,600
guillemot			1																					1	2			4
seal											1	1													1			3

22 mi. off Cape York

21 mi. from land

15 mi. from land

14 mi. off Saunders Is. changed course for Dover

21 July 1946

22 July 1946 Baffin Bay and Lancaster Sound, from Philpots Is. to Dundas Hbr.

37 Obs.	0645	0730	0815	0830	0845	1015	1030	1045	1115	1130	1145	1245	1300	1315	1330	1345	1400	1415	1430	1445	1500	1515	1530	1600	1615	1630	1645	1700	1800	1815	1830	1845	1900	1915	1930	1945	2000	total	obs.
fulmar ✓	5	15	10			5	5	10	3	14	7		3	–	17	10	10	2			3	3	3	3	5	50	25	25	75	62	3		–	2	1	2	200	553	24
eider sp.? ✓												2		–																			–					2	1
~~parasitic jaeger~~ ✓																										1												1	1
long-t. jaeger ✓		1								1	1			–																			–					3	3
glaucous gull ✓								1						–									1			1							–				1	4	4
Thayer's gull ✓	6	1				1	1	1						–													5	2					–				6	23	8
kittiwake ✓		5	3	2	1	15	[illegible]	5	8	5	2		1	–	11	5	5		1→		2			5	5	15	50	7		9	2		–				75	239	23
Brunnich's murre ✓	15	50	100	15	10	25	25	15	5	6	6			–	2	40	5	3	3			3		15	5	25	25	35		5	68	9	–	2	15	5	25	562	29
guillemot ✓														–								1				1		1			1		–				1	5	5
dovekie ✓														–	1					50→													–					51	2
seal sp.? ✓													1	–																			–					1	1

5 mi. from land at Hyde Inlet

25 mi. off coast →

at sea proceeding to Arthur Inlet, and in inlet.

in pack ice ↑

Arthur Inlet to Cape Warrender as close as 2 mi. to shore

Cape Warrender to Dundas Hbr.

22 July 1946

23 July 46

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.

	East shore 0900-1400	west shore 1500-1700	east shore 1900-2100	
✓ red-thr. loon			1	1
✓ fulmar	300			300
✓ atlantic brant	12			12
✓ oldsquaw	8 (2,6)		1♀	9
✓ no. eider	12			12
✓ king eider	8 (2♂)	11 (7♂)		19
✓ ringed plover	10		4 (2,1,1)	14
✓ Baird's Sdpr	1		8 (6,2)	9
✓ glaucous gull	2	3	2	7
✓ Thayer's gull	50	1	5	56
✓ Lapland longspur	3			3
✓ snow bunting	15 (3 family gr.)	2	23 (3,3,2,10,5)	40
✓ parasitic jaeger	2			2
✓ seal		9 (in ice at head of Hbr.)		9

see Daily Journal 14 Aug 1946, pp. 159-161, for comparative census and discussion of late summer Arctic bird-life.

Gavia arctica

1946

Single individuals in breeding plumage were noted swimming about (1) Dundas Harbor in July, and two others were seen at Cape Joy in August.

(1) Dundas Hbr. Single individuals were seen on July 24 and 29.

24 July 1946: one seen swimming in harbor.

29 July 1946: Duvall saw one east of the RCMP post.

Gavia stellata (1)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. One on a fresh water pond acted as tho it were ~~nesting~~ nesting.

24 July 46 Dundas Hbr. I collected a fine ad. on a freshwater pond.

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Two on inland ponds. They "talk" like geese.

4 Aug 1946 Thule 3 (1, 1, 1) seen.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. In flight, and often on the water as well, the red-thr. loon keeps up a continuous cackling, sounding very much like that of guinea hens, and audible for a great distance. From below, they show all white except for the dark throat. All are still in fine nuptial plumage, and I've seen no juvenals or immatures. Side view in flight is also very characteristic, but, I suppose common to all loons.

Total for day, 4 (2, 2).

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. On the ponds at Croker Bay six pairs were seen (total - 12)

14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 4 (3, 1).

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (East shore of Croker Bay) - calls of loons were everywhere in the air, as this was the dominant bird on this lake-dotted plain. I shot one that blew too close.

Those I saw were all adults, mostly still paired, tho I saw one flock of thirteen. All are in nuptial plumage. They are usually encountered one or two pairs to a lake, depending upon the size of the lake, and are quite wary, flying well out of gun range. A few (5) were seen off shore in the bay. I assume that the young of the year are already at sea, since

there is no evidence of nesting at present and since no young have been seen. They have a great variety of calls. All mixed together and heard at a distance they sound much like the noise raised by a guinea hen. One call is a gutteral rolling sound like the screech owl's trill. Anot er like a cat's crying, and another a croak something like the raven's call. Regarding young---it is more likely that the loons for some reason did not nest here this year. Perhaps the thaw was too late.] Total for day, 60 (2, 1, 1, 1, 5, 2, 4, 4, 5, 1, 2, 2, 13, 12, 5).

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (north shore). 3 seen.

18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 1 seen.

gannet

6 July 1946 off E. coast of Nova Scotia.
0830 one imm. with body white, wings black, white "V" on rump, followed ship.

double-cr. cormorant

5 July 1946 Boston, Mass. A few seen flying in harbor + about 25 perched on rocks at hbr. mouth. Several swimming + diving near ship. Most were in adult plumage, tho there were a few white-bellied immatures.

Leach's petrel

6 July 1946 - 50 mi. off E. coast of Nova Scotia. Appears very brownish with distinct darker bands across secondaries. Two seen.

7 July 1946 off Cabot Str. The most frequently seen bird today seen on all but two of 36 - 15 min observation periods. Total 158.

8 July 1946 off E. coast of Newfoundland. 15 in one flock. Brown coloration and pale patches on wings are good field marks. Forked tail not noticeable except at very close range. Flight not noticeably different from that of Wilson's — not to me at least. The most frequently seen bird today — 30 of 31 obs. periods — total of 175.

9 July 1946 200 mi off Str of Belle Isle Total for day 24 (15 of 31 obs.)

10 July 1946 Greenland sea. Midway between Newfoundland + Cape Farewell. a total of 6 for the day (4 of 15 periods)

Wilson's petrel

5 July 1946 Boston, Mass. common near mouth of hbr.
5 July 1946 Gulf of Maine many resting and "walking" on water; 16 in flock, 75+ in flock around three fishing schooners a total of 210 in 17 observation periods of 15 min. – the most uniformly distributed and frequently seen bird.
6 July 1946 50 mi. off E coast of Nova Scotia. Eleven in one flock at 1145. Noticeably blacker than Leach's petrel. Observed on more 15 min obs. periods than any other bird. Total for 39 obs – 74.

greater Shearwater

6 July 1946 - 50 mi. off E coast of Nova Scotia. One far out looked white to naked eye — brown-backed + white-bellied with binoculars; closeup, white collar and white "V" rump patch become evident; 2 sit on water, 2 very close to ship afforded fine views. Flap + sail flight and rise + glide characteristic. Very white underparts, dark wings and tail and white "V" on rump noticeable at a great distance. Dark black of head with sharp line of demarcation from white of cheeks noticeable closer up. White collar also prominent. Underside of wings whitish. At 1715 about 50 in three flocks. Many circling, but up to eleven in compact groups on water. At 1745 more than 75 all around ship. At 1830 one sit on water and 15 others quickly followed suit till all were in tight raft. Tight rafts are characteristic. Became the dominant bird after noon. Many more or less followed ship. Total for 39 obs.: 246.

7 July 1946 off Cabot Str. up to 40 in one flock. Seen on 26 of 36 15 min obs. periods. Total 333 - the most numerous bird today.

Greater shearwater (2)

8 July 1946 off E coast of Newfoundland. Seen on 7 of 31 obs. periods. Total of 25.

9 July 1946 200 miles off Str. of Belle Isle. Little wind today and more birds were on the water than in the air. On several occasions more than 100 shearwaters were seen together in a single raft. Often they fluttered only just far enough out of ship's course to avoid being drubbed in the bow wake. Seen on 28 of 31 obs. Total: 924.

10 July 1946 Labrador Sea, midway between Newfoundland & Cape Farewell a total of 3 for the day (3 of 15 periods)

Cory's Shearwater

6 July 1946 - 50 mi off E. coast of Nova Scotia. 2 shearwater possibly this species. White-rump patch not noticeable and underparts dirty whitish.

7 July 1946 off Cabot Strait. a large, dark shearwater showing diffused rump patch and dark breast may have been this species. Only belly and under surfaces of wings white.

sooty shearwater

6 July 1946 off E. coast of Nova Scotia.
0930 - 3 flew seaward across bow of ship - a good way out. Characteristic shearwater flight noticeable even at a distance. Total for 39 obs. - 7
7 July 1946 off Cabot Str. Following ship with greater shearwaters seen on 13 of 36 15-min obs. periods. Total 28 individuals.
8 July 1946 off E coast of Newfoundland Two seen.

fulmar

6 July 1946 off E. coast of Nova Scotia about 50 miles out. 1 light phase seen at great distance. Identity uncertain

7 July 1946 off Cabot Str. One in light phase at 0915, another light phase at 0945. another in light phase, following ship close up at 1200. Total 3.

8 July 1946 off E. coast of Newfoundland. ~~at 0800~~ One in light phase came very close along side of ship. Short bill, dark eye, and large head make it very dove-like. White at bases of primaries not shown in field guides. Later observations showed that nearly all fulmars exhibit this character. At 1645 another in light phase. Total for day - 2.

9 July 1946 200 mi. off Str. of Belle Isle. Fulmars were the birds of the hour, being always in sight. Their shining white breasts showed a long distance in the sunlight, and they could always be seen dotted all over the water for miles around the ship. There was little wind and more birds were seen on the water than in the air. They seemed reluctant to fly when the ship approached them, and they often only fluttered just out of the way of the bow-wake and settled back on the water again. Greater shearwaters did likewise. Birds are much

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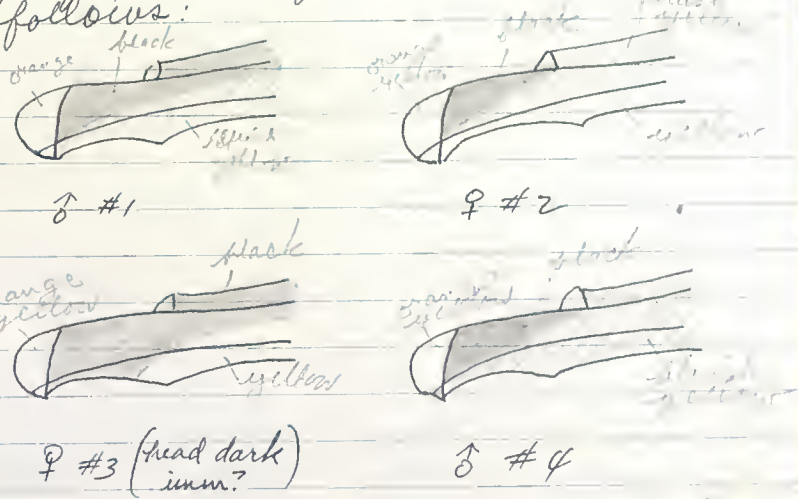
tamer here than further south. Several fulmars flew within a few feet of me. 200 in a compact group feeding on fish – 15 blackfish at same spot. At 1630, holding binoculars stationary on a line off the starboard beam, I counted 100 fulmars on the water far out from the ship in a 3 min. period. (at 1645 counted 50 in 3 min. in same fashion) The glistening white breasts show up for great distances in the sunlight. They have been about the ship in equal numbers all day – we must have passed at least 10,000 in the course of the day (1110 actually counted). The white phase outnumbers the gray probably 10-1. Seen on every observation period.

10 July 1946 Labrador sea, midway between Newfoundland & Cape Farewell. Duvall shot 4 fulmars from the stern. Onboard they caused quite a sensation and we had a sizable audience when we skinned them on the deck. Everyone wanted to know what they were, were they good to eat, what were we going to do with them? It was hard to explain that a fulmar is neither a gull nor a duck. If it isn't a gull or a duck, then what is it. Most of the sailors had no knowledge of petrels, shearwaters, and

albatrosses. The following notes were made on soft parts: eyes brown; feet and legs pale bluish gray; bill of varying colors, as follows:



seen on each of 15 15-min. observation periods. Total for day 104. Breast feathers are thick + well interlocked or intermatted. Under this is a layer of very dense gray down ½ or ¾ inch thick! Besides this insulation there was a thick layer of fat. No wonder the fulmar negotiates these cold waters with impunity.

11 July 1946 - W. coast of Greenland - 60 mi. off Frederikshaab

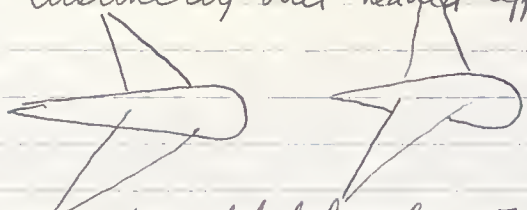
The commonest bird today, with an estimated total of about 200 (81 actually counted).

12 July 1946 - W. coast of Greenland - 70 mi off Godhaab.

Fulmars were again the most conspicuous and abundant bird, being almost always in sight. None were observed on the water

today (wind 20 knots), whereas on some days almost all have been on the water. Also no large blocks. Most were flying southward with the wind, whereas most kittiwakes were flying with [against?] the wind. Yesterday and today we've seen many dark brown fulmars, evidently young of the year. Further south where we saw fulmars by the thousand, all were apparently adults. Total for day - 201.

13 July 1946 Davis Str., 30 mi. off Holsteinborg.
In 35 - 40 knot wind, did much more gliding and sailing than on previous observations. I have noticed that they have a distinctly "bull-headed" appearance in gliding.



seen on 13 of 19 obs. Total for day, 71.

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is.
I haven't seen a fulmar on the water for several days. For a day or two they were all on the water. Up here the dark phase is infrequent but all seem to be dull and in molt. At a distance and in dull light they appear to be dark winged and tailed birds with bright white heads. Total for day - 133. Seen in 31 of 36 observation periods.

15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik.
Total for day, 20. Seen on 16 of 29 obs. - singles & doubles.

16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, about 100 mi. SE Cape York.
Third most conspicuous bird of the day, total of 39 on 17 of 28 obs. Although this was an

almost windless day, few were on the water. Duvall collected a male from the ship.

17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik
Total for day – 8.

18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik.
Total for day 13.

19 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi NW Upernivik.
Total for day 2.

20 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi NW Upernivik
Total for day 7, of which 5 were around an iceberg.

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 20 mi. of Cape York
Seen on 18 of 27 obs. a total of 124 for the day. The third most conspicuous bird this date. Here there were many more gray birds than we have been accustomed to see. One ~~group~~ obs of 10 were all gray. Another of 25 were half and half. One was all white, including wings – the first of the trip. All others have seemed to be in molt, with wings dusky or dirty brown.

22 July 1946 SE coast of Devon from Hyde Inlet to Dundas Hbr. Total for day 553 on 29 of 37 obs. Along with the murre, the most abundant and conspicuous bird this date. Most were gray. Almost half (250) were seen between Bethune Inlet + Cape Warrender. Another 200 in Dundas Hbr.

fulmar (6)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
A total of 300, of which 200 were on the water in a rockbound cove.
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 200 seen.
27 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. For several hours during the evening, fulmars were passing eastward close to the shore in a long continuous flight. At least 5,000 were seen.
28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1,000 seen.
29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 100 seen.
30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound, Dundas Hbr. to Blanley Inlet. Common throughout, but especially so in icefloes beyond Holhouse Inlet. Several flocks of 200 or more. Total, 2,000 est.
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 50 seen.
9 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound (off shore between Powell Inlet and Graham Hbr.) 72 (5, 7, 8, 23, 2, 5, 4, 8, 10) seen.
10 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., 15 mi off Maxwell Bay. 43 (5, 6, 3, 4, 10, 15) seen.
11 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound 59 (10, 5, 10, 10, 5, 6, 3, 4, 6,) in icefloes off Admiralty Inlet. In Admiralty Inlet 157 (12, 25, 15, 30, 10, 10, 15, 10, 7, 23) were seen. Total for day 218.
12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. A total of 45 outside the harbor, 20 inside.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. In long stringy flocks offshore, at least 10,000.

fulmar (7)

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay Total for day – 1,050+.
18 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet
On the approaches to Tay Bay, dozens of fulmars. Total – 100.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay 100 off the harbor entrance.
20 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet, north out of Tay Bay. Total 14 (8, 5, 1,) on 3 of 7 obs.
21 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. Total 84 (13, 4, 26, 1, 25, 15) on 6 of 7 obs.

Atlantic brant

23 July 1946 Dundas Hb., Devon Is.
A flock of twelve flew past
the RCMP station.

greater snow goose

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is.
The RCMP report that a few migrants have been seen during their occupancy (8 Sep 45 to present). A flock flew over the station 24 May 1946.
12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. There were 5 snow geese on the far side of the first large pond we approached at the head of the harbor. They flew long before we could maneuver into gun range.

king eider.

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Disko Is. a flock of 17, all adult males, flew ~~acro~~ landward across the bow in a short bunched line at 2245. Orange bill & shield noticeable and white foreparts contrasted with black rear parts conspicuous.

22 July 1946 Off Philpots' Is. Two undetermined females ~~seen~~ reported.

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. On salt water bays and coves, a total of 19 seen. Nine were females.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 25, mostly drakes, together with 50 northern eiders in RCMP bay.

1 ~~July~~ Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Females of undetermined species (1, 5) were seen in the bay.

2 Aug 1946 Thule. We saw two broods of eiders (19, 8 yg; 19, 4 yg.) probably two to three weeks old, on inland ponds. Two officers from the Norton Sound shot one of the mother ducks and were shooting at the young for target practice.

3 Aug 1946 Thule. There was a flock of 52 eiders along the beach — all females ~~or~~ females & young — all able to fly. One female of the flock had a brood of 12 one-day-old chicks which she convoyed out into the bay.

King eider (2)

(3 Aug cont) Total, 67 (52♂ + 12 yu., 3♀).

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon. On our first visits to Dundas Harbor in July, the eiders were seen in large flocks and were about 99% males. At Thule, subsequently, we saw largeflocks, but no males at all. On our August vistis to D. H. the small flocks we have seen have been all females and, or, immatures. This afternoon, for a change, I saw a drake king eider in company of four females. Croker Bay is the best waterfowl breeding ground I have seen on this trip, but I secured no direct evidence of nesting there. On my 13 Aug visit I waded around many of the lakes without finding any nests, not even old ones, so today I stuck to dry land.

northern eider (1)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
A flock of 12, all males, in RCMP Bay.
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 50, mostly drakes, together with 25 king eiders in RCMP Bay.
27 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. A total of 110, in flocks of 75 + 35, were seen off the harbor mouth.
28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 30 seen.
29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. The flocks of eiders ar predominantly of males in their flashy black and w white plumage, with only an occasional female. Evidently most of the females, or all except the non-breeders, are still on the nesting grounds, wherever they may be. Some flocks seen on freshwater ponds, others on Lancaster Sound. Eiders (sp.?) and oldsquaws first seen on 3 June this year. Native name for eider, "mettik". Today we saw four groups totaling 48 individuals as follows (1♂)(24♂1♀)(19♂1♀)(2♀).
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Female of undetermined species (1,5) were seen in the bay.
4 Aug 1946 Thule. Gulls & eiders were numerous among the ice of Wolstenholme Fjord, and I estimated 500 eiders seen in flocks up to 100 individuals. They were probably northern eiders

northern eider (2)

Last week of July 1946 Etah, Greenland Dr. Lemons, Army QM noted numerous eiders of undetermined species, but saw no geese.
12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 4 (3,1) seen.
14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 ♀ Ducks are much scarcer now than 3 weeks ago. Whereas 9/10 were males, now all are females or young.
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay Total for day — 33 (14,5,13,1).
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 12 (1, 11) seen.

oldsquaw (1)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is. A total of nine, all but one of which were on salt water. One female on fresh water pond.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is. 4 seen.

28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 10 seen. First seen this year on 3 June. Together with eiders.

~~29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Today saw a total of 15 (4, 11), of which one was long-tailed.~~

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Total, 8 (5, 3).

4 Aug 1946 Thule. A pair on an inland pond apparently could not fly. At least 50% of the oldsquaws seen on this trip have been seemingly flightless.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. There were a hundred oldsquaws at the very shallow head of the harbor. Most were unable to fly and seven were collected. Two others on a freshwater pond.

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (Croker Bay), Old squaws were the only ducks seen on the lakes, and some which were unable to fly tried to escape by diving when approached too closely. One large closely packed flock of 100 was seen along the beach in thick stranded ice. When I rushed them there was quite a commotion of struggling wings as only about a third of the flock was able to become airborne. A flock of 31 consisted of both sexes and young all but 1 of another flock of 23 were males.

oldsquaw (2)

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay (continued) –
total for day – 162 (31, 23, 100, 5, 3).
18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay Bylot Is. One
flock of 200 in harbor.
20 Aug 1946 Taff Bay 3 in harbor
mouth

gyrfalcon

22 July 1946 Dundas Hb., Devon Is.
The RCMP report several in gray phase seen last fall.
3 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. ~~atop~~ On a knife-edged cliff atop one of the barren, lifeless ridges south of the airstrip, I found droppings, possibly of a gyrfalcon, containing remains of snow buntings and hares.

rock ptarmigan (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
The RCMP report that a few were around the station in winter, but are "on the icecap" in summer.

2 August 1946 Thule, Greenland I found a ptarmigan and a brood of eight three-day old chicks in a marshy area atop the bluff overlooking the village. Though their camouflage was excellent they made no attempt to use it and ran away from me at a leisurely pace and I caught one with ease. They made no attempt to fly and I approached within 3 feet of the female before she finally flew. The chicks were continually peeping and the hen was clucking. The hen's body was dark brown above and dark brown on the breast; the belly was buffy and the primaries, secondaries, and lesser wing coverts were white; red spot over the eye.

3 Aug 1946 Thule. Along a knife-edged cliff atop one of the barren lifeless ridges south of the airstrip I observed droppings of ptarmigan.

4 Aug 1946 Thule. We observed 2 ptarmigan and saw many droppings in the same areas where rabbit sign was abundant. (high barren rocky ridges south of Wolstenholme fjord, near the icecap).

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. In the well-vegetated boulder fields bordering the glacial fan at the head of the harbor there were many hare droppings. Ptarmigan sign was also scattered through the same territory.

rock ptarmigan (2)

13 Aug 46
Dundas Abr. In a lovely little green valley leading up to the top of the coast range tracks, droppings, and molted feathers of ptarmigan were abundant and there was much sign of rabbit and fox.

18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot I. seen by several crew members. Lt. Woodside described one he saw, even down to the red spots under the eyes.

Baird's sandpiper (1)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Island. On the grassy slopes and around fresh water ponds, Baird's sandpipers were much in evidence, and ~~also~~ evidently had young just out of the nest. Besides the broken wing and prostration tactics, another of its favorite tricks was to fluff up to about twice normal size, and flutter across a pond, just barely clearing the surface of the water, and crying in distress all the while. The buffy band across the breast is not very evident in the field, but the odd size, intermediate between the least and the pectoral, together with the general buffy coloration make it unmistakable. It is about the size of a white-rump I suppose. a total of nine were seen.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 15 seen.
Sandpipers (sp.?) were first seen this year on 3 June, along with gulls, eiders, & oldsquaws.

4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. One that I collected in the muskeg valley above the airstrip may not have been nesting.

12 aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 10 undetermined "peep" sandpipers on the till plain at the head of the harbor.

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon Baird's sandpiper was the most commonly encountered shorebird, seen along the beach in flocks of two to eight individuals. I once thought that it was hard to identify, before I had seen it, but really it is an easy matter. It is noticably larger than the smaller "peeps", about the size of the white-rumped sandpiper, and is conspicuously buffy, especially on the breast, where the ~~buff~~/dark coloration is almost as extensive as on the pectoral sandpiper. I haven't noticed anything distinctive about its call notes. All seen today were obviously banded together for migration. Not since those seen at Dundas hbr. in July, have any evidenced nesting. Total, 25 (8, 5, 3, 5, 2, 2)

Baird's sandpiper (2)

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Two on mud flats at north end of harbor.

black-bellied plover

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon At one point along the beach I heard a great furor of screeming at two pitches. One I recognized a being a jaeger and the other, when I finally saw the birds, proved to be a large shore-bird. The jaeger and the shorebird alternated chasing each other, each pursuing his adversary with about equal determination. Finally the jaeger (parasitic) lit with his mate beside one of the lakes while the shorebird lit on a growler just off shore with some Arctic terns. I had observed all this at a distance of over half a mile, so it was not until I came closer that the shorebird was identified with certainty as a black-bellied plover. I am not sure whether it was nesting in the vicinity or not, tho it became mildly excited when I approached the area where it was chasing the jaeger. When collected, it proved to be an adult just beginning to molt to the winter plumage.

golden plover

4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. A fine pair that I saw in the muskeg valley above the airstrip may not have been nesting.

Knot

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. A transient flock of 15 seen at a freshwater pond.
4 Aug 1946 Thule. A pair with 4 full-grown young in the north-south valley opening on Wolstenholme Fjord several miles behind Thule

Purple sandpiper

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon. Two large, dark sandpipers which flushed from the beach to a grounded growler, turned out to be immature purple sandpipers. One still had much down on the nape and about the head and had probably been reared not far away. Large size, about that of the pectoral sandpiper, and very dark coloration will set the purple sandpiper apart with certainty in the field. 5 (3, 2) other large "peeps" may have been this species.

Ringed Plover (1)

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Island. Next to the snow bunting, this was the most abundant land bird. They were seen most commonly on the gravelly, relatively barren ridge tops. Most evidently had eggs about to hatch or young just out of the nest, for they were just like miniature killdeers in their efforts to lead you away by broken wing and tail fanning ruses. Their sobbing call note was characteristic of the barren ridges. The much broader breast band of the ringed plover is readily noticable in the field, and I believe it could in most cases be safely separated from the semipalmated plover. A total of 14 were seen.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 10 seen.

28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 2 seen

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. The Ringed plover was the only shorebird we encountered on the grassy peninsul. east of the station, and it was on the gravelly upper margin. Here, at least, it is the commonest and most widely distributed shorebird. Five seen.

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 2 seen near village.

3 Aug 1946 Thule Along the beach were frequent tidal pools about which there were a few ringed plovers, evidently finished nesting. Washburn caught a few-days-old chick near the airstrip. It attempted to escape by running rather than by hiding. In the barren ridges and valleys south of the airstrip only occasional ringed plovers and snow buntings relieved the lifeless monotony. Total, 7 (3, 1, 1, 1,)

ringed plover (2)

14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 3 seen. Two were flying east along the shore, calling as they went. The other was an immature, with black bill and incomplete breast band (lacking in middle). Compare with 23 July census.
16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 adult on mudflats at north end of harbor.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 2 seen

Ruddy turnstone

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Disko Is.
The first truly land-based birds we have seen for days were two ruddy turnstones, both bright males. They were seen 15 mi. apart. The first put on a nice display, flying westward across the bow, then straight back toward the portside of the ship, then parallel to the ship only a few yards out. The second flew several times around the ship calling all the while. Both flew away northward. A striped bird reported last night also was probably this species.
10 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., 15 mi off Maxwell Bay. One flew south across the ship; circled once, and called all the while.

Sanderling

3 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Amid the sparsely vegetated boulder strewn countryside at 1500 ft elevation on the ridge overlooking the airstrip from the south I observed a sanderling. From its actions it was evident that it had young nearby.

northern phalarope

9 July 1946 200 mi off Str of Belle Isle
16 (5 ad. 11 imm.) swimming on water in compact flock. flew when ship came near. Showed conspicuous white stripe in wing. Imm. very brown in contrast to paler adults.
15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik. Seven feed around base of iceberg.
2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Tho I examined much marsh-land, I saw no shorebirds except two northern phalaropes and a transient flock of knots. The phalaropes were eating flies which had fallen on the surface of a pond.

red phalarope

9 July 1946 200 mi. off Sts. of Belle Isle
3 (2♀ 1♂) flew across bow, lit nearby and then flew high into the air and out of sight. Red breasts and white wing stripes conspicuous. Characteristic sandpiper flight. Later flushed flock of 13 from water in path of ship. They flew high into the air and straight away to the east. Predominantly bright females.
Total for day — 16.

11 July 1946 W. coast of Greenland — 60 mi off Frederikshaab
1 female.

12 July 1946 W. coast of Greenland — 70 mi off Godthaab
1 male flew rapidly eastward across bow.

glaucous gull (1)

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay 15 mi of Saunders Is. Two seen.
22 July 1946 Bethune ~~Inlet~~ to Dundas Hbr. A total of 4 (1,1,1,1).
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. A total of 7 were seen. Two scouded as the nesting nearby.
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 10 seen.
27 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 3 seen
28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 3 seen
29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. At first, I mistook three glaucous gulls resting on the pond for geese, they are so large and so white, but a more careful look dispelled this mistake, even tho they were probably a mile and a half away. This morning we found gulls, eiders, and oldsquaws resting on the freshwater pond To the mounties I mentioned having seen glaucous gulls apparently still nesting and they said that they had seen downy young at that spot only a few days ago. First seen this year on 3 June, together with sandpipers, eiders, & oldsquaws Today, 6 were seen.
1 August 1946 Thule, Greenland. 10 seen.
2 Aug 1946 Thule. Eleven on an inland pond.
3 Aug 1946 Thule Total, 7 (1,4,2)
4 Aug 1946 Thule. ~~Many~~ in the harbor and several in the north south valley several miles E of Thule. Total 40 (1,1,10,1,2,25).
8 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. See remarks this date under snow bunting, on bunting attacking gull. The glaucous gull is observed about

glaucous gull (2)

as often inland as along the beach and is the only gull we have observed inland.
12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Total for day 63 (11, 25, 1, 1, 25)

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Along the west shore of the harbor we found a good colony of gulls on a small cliff. Apparently it was about half and half glaucous and Thayer's gulls, about 25 pairs each. The young were about half grown. On a cliff around the point toward Croker Bay we found another colony of glaucous gulls on a ledge about 500 feet up. No more than 4 adults were seen and there were at least 5 half grown young. Several times the gulls came in with their crops so gorged with food that the distension was very conspicuous. They were very alert. When I returned from the west in the evening I was careful to approach out of sight of the ledge. When still half a mile distant I showed myself around the point and noted that the only afult gull on the ledge was facing away from me. Within a matter of seconds after I showed myself it came screaming from the ledge. Soon there were several others and they all began to dive on me. They would tower high above me and then zoom down in a 45° dive with such speed that the wind in their wings made a surprisingly loud noise. When a few feet above me they suddenly swerved up again at 90°. Total, 75 for day.

14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 5 (1, 2, 1, 1)

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. To date only adults have been seen in flight. When I passed the 13 Aug. rookery in a helicopter, 3 adults flew out angrily from the cliff to meet us, but we passed so quickly that they had no opportunity to attack. Croker Bay: Total for day 23 (10, 2, 5, 4, 1, 1, 3).

glaucous gull (3)

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (north shore-mud flats) - 16 seen.
18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Byloot Is. 25 in harbor.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay. At various places along the beach a total of 19, including 2 flying young of the year.

Great black-backed gull

5 July 1946 Gulf of Maine 3 ad. perched on floating debree, later another on debree, ad + imm. flying. a total of 8 in 17 observation periods of 5 min.

6 July 1946 50 mi. off E coast of Nova Scotia. 1 adult.

herring gull

5 July 1946 Boston, Mass. common in harbor and at mouth – 1/4 adult, 1/2 second year. Outside of hbr. in gulf of Maine 9/10 were adult; 150+ in flock, a total of 306 in 17 observation periods of 15 min.

6 July 1946 50 mi. off E. coast of Nova Scotia. Total for 39 obs. – 26.

Iceland gull

12 aug 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
Duvall saw near the glacier at the head of the harbor a pure white gull the size of a kittiwake - about the right size for an iceland gull.

ivory gull

30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound, off Blanley Inlet, Devon. I saw my first ivory gulls (3) — little fellows the size of kittiwakes, pure white, and with black bills [!] and feet, easily distinguishable, even at a considerable distance. They are the first really northern birds I had hoped to see. I've still got to see Ross's gulls and wheatears. These gulls were in large ice floes.

Kittiwake (1)

9 July 1946 200 mi. off str. of Belle Isle. During the day saw a total of 4 (2 ad., 2 imm) (3 observations).

10 July 1946 Labrador Sea, midway between Newfoundland + Cape Farewell. 1 imm. seen.

11 July 1946 W. coast of Greenland, 60 mi. off Frederikshaab. In the late afternoon groups of 1, 9, + 5 ~~etc~~, including several adults, were seen. Total for day - 16

12 July 1946 W. coast of Greenland, 70 mi. off Godhaab. More numerous than previously. Most were flying into the wind, whereas most fulmars today were with the wind. Non-adult plumages predominated. Total for day - 83. About seventy-five additional small gulls perched on a distant icecake were very likely kittiwakes.

13 July 1946 Davis Str., 30 mi off Holsteinborg. The most noticable bird today, seen on 12 of 19 obs. Most were adults, and most were flying toward land (cross-wind). Total for day, 70 -

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Disko Is.

Following the landward movement of kittiwakes yesterday, none were seen until noon today. I believe the kittiwake is the most easily identified American gull in any plumage. In the adult the black-tipped wings are conspicuous almost as distant as the bird can surely be distinguished as a gull. This black tipping without mirrors is evident from both above and below. The wing pattern of the immature is quite different from that of any other eastern

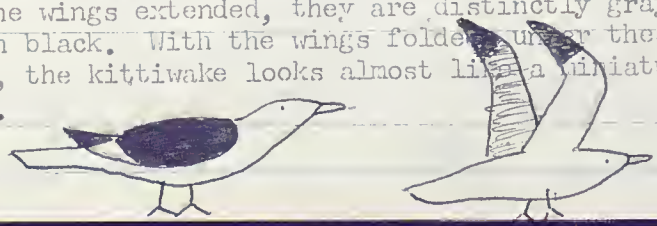
gull and can also be spotted at considerable distances, tho not as far as the black tipping of the adult wing. ~~I saw one adult today closely enough to distinguish the~~ bright yellow bill and black legs. Saw one on the water for the first time. A large percentage of the birds seen to date have been immature. Total for day — 80.

15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik. A great many birds were seen perched on icebergs. All that were close enough for identification were gulls or terns. At a distance they appeared black, closer, black-backed and white-headed, and only very close did their true colors show up. Of course they could be identified as far as they could be seen, almost, if they rose into the air for a moment or two. Total for day 89, all but one of which were seen before noon. Also, most Arctic terns were in morning. Fulmars + murres throughout day.

16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York The most abundant and second most conspicuous bird of the day. A total of 116 seen on 20 of 28 obs. One flock of 50 was resting on the water, another of 15 was on an iceberg. Most others were flying

17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik Total for day 35. Seen on 8 of 12 obs.

18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik. At a distance on an iceberg the kittiwake appears to be distinctly black-backed, with the wing-tips just a shade blacker. In the same position and at the same distance, but with the wings extended, they are distinctly gray rather than black. With the wings folded under these conditions, the kittiwake looks almost like a miniature black-back.



Kittiwake (3)

18 July 46 (cont'd)
Total for day 61, mostly in two flocks (50, 5) on and around icebergs.
19 July 1946 Baffin Bay 50 mi NW Upernivik
Total for day, 11.
20 July 1946 Baffin Bay 50 mi NW Upernivik
Total for day, 26, of which 25 were ~~around~~ on icebergs.
21 July 1946 Baffin Bay 20 mi off Cape York. A total of 42 for the day. Of this number, 25 were perched on an iceberg. One played games with pomarine jaeger - see note under that species.
22 July 1946 SE Devon from Hyde Inlet to Dundas Hbr. The third most abundant & conspicuous bird this date - 239 seen on 23 of 37 obs.
27 July 1946 off Dundas Hbr., Devon I. 10 seen.
30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound. Several off Powell Inlet, numerous in ice floes off Blanley Inlet. Total, 200.
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 300 seen in harbor and fjord.
2 Aug 46 Thule 25 seen.
3 Aug 1946 Thule On the cliffs at the south end of the landing beach (SE corner of North Star Bay) kittiwakes seemed to be nesting near the top, a thousand feet sheer drop above the water. Total, 25.

Kittiwake (4)

4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland about 300 in the ice floes of Wolstenholme fjord.

8 Aug 1946 no exact locality. The kittiwake is everywhere the most abundant off-shore gull.

10 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., 15 mi off Maxwell Bay. 1 seen.

11 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., off Admiralty Inlet. 2 seen. None in the Inlet.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 12 outside and two in the harbor - Total, 14.

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon. At sea and in Baffin Bay, most of the kittiwakes were immatures, while in the inlets and sounds and close to shore all are adults. They were evidently still nesting at Thule, but nowhere else we have been. W/

18 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet. On approaches to Tay Bay - 10 kittiwakes.

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot. 3 seen

20 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet. north out of Tay Bay. Total 91 (77, 1, 4, 8, 1). Most numerous just off harbor mouth.

21 Aug '46 Lancaster Sound. Total 7 (2, 5).

ring-billed gull

5 July 1946. Boston, Mass. a few immatures in harbor.

Sabine's gull

15 July 1946. Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik. Seen on a growler with 15 arctic terns. In flight showed black heads and characteristic bold wing pattern.

Thayer's gull (1)

22 July 1946 SE coast of Devon Is. from Hyde Inlet to Dundas Hb. a total of 23 (6, 1, 1, 1, 5, 2, 6) were seen. The feet of one at Hyde Inlet seemed orange; those of a subadult seen 25 mi off Philpot's Is. seemed yellowish.

This individual was so pale that I thought at first it might be a Kumlien's gull.

23 July 1946 Dundas Hb., Devon Is. This is the commonest bird here — a total of 56 seen.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hb. 20 seen.

27 July 1946 Dundas Hb. 10 seen.

28 July 1946 Dundas Hb. 5 seen

29 July 1946 Dundas Hb. 10 seen.

30 July 1946 ~~Dundas Hb.~~ Lancaster Sound One off Powell Inlet + several off Stratton Inlet. Several in ice floes off Blanley Inlet. Total, 15.

8 Aug 1946 no exact locality. Thayer's gull is commonest on the beaches, and is frequent off-shore within sight of land.

11 Aug 1946 Admiralty Inlet. 3 seen.

Thayer's gull (2)

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. A total of 16 (1, 10, 5) in the harbor.

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Along the west shore of the harbor we found a good colony of gulls on a small cliff. Apparently it was about half and half glaucous and Thayer's gulls - about 25 pairs of each. The young were about half grown.

14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 50 seen.

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. To date only adults have been seen in flight. Total for day (Croker Bay) - 1

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (north shore - mud flats) - 10 seen.

18 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet. On approaches to Tay Bay — 5 Thayer's gulls.

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot. The e was a colony of ~~THAYER'~~ Thayer's gulls nesting on the rocks at the mouth of the harbor. I found three nests but there were probably more. The old birds zoomed me continually in the same manner I have already described for the glaucous gull. In one nest the two young were 1/3 grown, in another, two 1/2 grown, and in the third, one 2/3 grown. All were still downy but had many feathers, especially in wings and tail. Thw down was gray, spotted with black and the wings were barred like a Plymouth Rock hen's. Bill was black and f eet gray. They could not be reached to make a collection. Later, I saw quite a few glaucous and Thayer's gulls flyin down the beach, and among them, several young of the year, the first immatures I have seen of the two species, in the air, that is. Total for day, 20 (5 juv., 1 imm.).

20 Aug 1946 Tay Bay 4 in harbor mouth.

long-tailed Jaeger

22 July 1946 Hyde Inlet s of Philpot's Is. Total of three (2 ~~light~~ dark, 1 light). The long tail is conspicuous even at a considerable distance.

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland One, light phase, seen at an inland muskeg pond.

3 Aug 1946 Thule In the lake dotted marshy muskeg valley several miles above the airstrip I found three family groups of long-tailed jaegers, each containing two adults and one young. They kept up a continuous gull-like chatter and screaming as they circled and wheeled about, and displayed their long streamer-like tail to best advantage. All of the young could fly well, tho one was still covered with down. The other two were grayish. I collected one of the adults and found it even more beautiful in the hand than I had observed it thru the binoculars. I imagine it is one of the most beautiful of northern birds. Total, 9.

4 Aug 1946 Thule 1 seen.

parasitic jaeger (1)

5 July 1946 Gulf of Maine off Boston. One adult (light phase), near fishing schooner were petrels & gulls had congregated. (just out of sight of land). passed almost over bow of "Northwind". chased gull short distance.

6 July 1946 - 50 mi. off E. coast of Nova Scotia. 2 detected at a great distance from ship. Closer up identification was easy. They are similar in size to the greater shearwater but have a continuous ~~flazy~~ flapping flight (no gliding or very little) and the undersurface of wing is black. At closer range white primary bases are conspicuous.

13 July 1946 - Davis Sts., 30 mi of Holsteinborg. Two seen at different times. Both dark phase. One solid brown all over, the other, brown except for yellow on cheeks & sides of neck. neither seemed to have white at primary bases. slightly larger than fulmar. I haven't seen extended central tail feathers on any of the jaegers I've observed this trip and since the parasitic has the shortest and least conspicuous projections, I've assumed that all I've seen were of that species. I suppose that this mark is no more

parasitic jaeger (2)

conspicuous, except at short range, than the square and forked tails of the petrels which I found very difficult to distinguish, except at very short range. I never did observe the trailing feet of the Wilson's Petrel.

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is. Duvall saw a dark colored bird, larger than a fulmar, that was possibly a jaeger. I saw a light phase jaeger — white collar, white belly.

20 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi NW Upernivik One medium dark.

22 July 1946 Between Bethune Inlet & Cape Warrender. One in light phase.

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. Two seen. The elongated central tail feathers are conspicuous only when the bird spreads its tail in banking.

4 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. In an area of muskeg along Wolstenholme Fjord we encountered several (3) parasitic jaegers which evidently had small young nearby. There was much screaming, and the birds ran about on the ground with their wings extended and their tails expanded much in the manner of hawks and owls which employ the same ruse to attract intruders away from their young. As the birds wheeled at relatively close range, the central spike of the tail was very conspicuous. I collected one of the adults.

15 August 1946 Croker Bay, Devon. Parasitic jaegers were more numerous here than anywhere else we have been, but seemed to have finished nesting. Their screams were heard with considerable frequency as they harrassed terns gulls, and shorebirds along the beach [see account of black-b. plover this date]. Several were seen resting about the inland lakes. Total 10 (2, 2, 2, 1, 3).

parasitic jaeger (2)

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about the inland lakes. Total 10 (2, 2, 2, 1, 3).

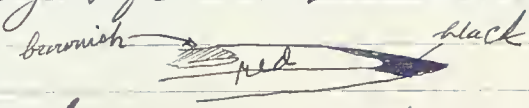
Pomarine jaeger

16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York. Duvall saw one that was dark throughout, even without white in wing. Later two dark jaegers, to distant for specific determination were seen flying from iceberg to iceberg. Two others in light phase were seen. Total for day — 7.

20 July 19[illegible] Baffin Bay, 20 mi. off Cape York. I watched a pomarine jaeger chase an adult kittiwake for a long distance this morning, and much to my surprise the gull seemed to be playing with the jaeger. The predator followed with remarkable closeness every twist, turn, and gyration of the smaller gull, but whenever it tired of the chase, the gull instead of trying to escape, seemed to pursue the jaeger until it took up the chase again. Finally, the jaeger refused to play anymore, and flew off alone. Light phase.

Arctic tern

15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Upernivik
a male collected from ship had
iris black, tarsus brown near
feather, toe nails black, remainder
of legs & feet red. Testes 0.



Bunches of 15, 12, and 15 perched on
icebergs. One flock was with
Sabine's gulls. Total for day, 43.
16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York.
a flock of 4 seen.
18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW
Upernivik. Twenty-five on a berg.
19 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi. NW Upernivik
Total for day, 2.
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 10 seen.
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon. Seen at only one spot.
Tho they became somewhat excited when I approached I
don't believe they were still nesting. No immatures
were seen. One I collected had the bill solid bright
red with no trace of black. The plumage is very gray,
shading even to black on the tail and primaries. The
matter of immature birds, or rather their lack, is
rather perplexing. Total — 5 (1, 3, 1).

Tern sp.?

5 July 1946 Gulf of Maine out of Boston. 3 adults seen about 3½ hours out of sight of land
6 July 1946 Off E. Coast of Nova Scotia 50 miles out. 1 imm. tern (black from eye continuous around back of head). ~~an~~ three adult very gray - probably Arctic tern.

Atlantic murre (1)

8 July 1946 off E coast of Newfoundland at 1100 one flew landward across bow and another on water dived as ship passed near. At 1530 one 60 mi. from land dived as ship passed near. Total for day — 3.

9 July 1946 200 mi off Str. of Belle Isle. 2 on water near ship. Dived as we passed. All we have seen on the water reacted similarly.

10 July 1946 Labrador Sea. midway between Belle Isle + Cape Farewell. 1 flew across the bow, headed west.

11 July 1946 West coast of Greenland - 60 mi. off Frederikshaab. Murres became a common sight, usually winging along parallel to the ship, but frequently seen on the water. Several persons remarked about their rapid duck-like flight as contrasted to the slow easy gliding flight of the fulmar. Total for day — 28.

12 July 1946 W. coast Greenland, 70 mi. off Frederikshaab. 2 seen.

13 July 1946 Davis Str., 30 mi off Holstenborg. Total for day, 10. most were flying toward coast. One was observed fairly closely on the water. Appeared bright chocolate brown above, and snow white below. The brown shows up even at a long distance in flight.

In flight

atlantic murre (2)

the murre appears very chunky and short-necked and has a rapid duck-like flight, resembling in form and motion the bufflehead. The one I saw closely seemed to be dipping something from the surface of the water, sticking only its bill under and seldom its whole head.

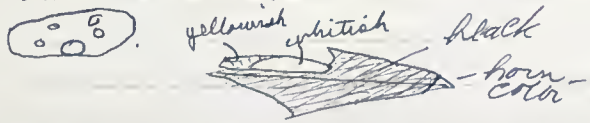
14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is.

Twice during the day large flocks (up to 200 individuals) of dark colored birds, possibly murres, were seen perched on icebergs, too distant to allow identification. Total for day - 49.

Brunnich's murre

14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is.
2 detected by white line on bill.

15 July 1946. Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik. Murres were the birds of the day. They were everywhere: on the water, flying, feeding, and playing. As many as 6 were in a single flock. From the bridge they could be spotted for great distances on the calm water, and most of those seen at a considerable distance seemed to be actively engaged in feeding---diving repeatedly. Those closer in were concerned with the ship. Some turned to and sat placidly watching as the ship passed them, others lost no time in flying away, some dived as the ship approached and then dived again and again until it was past them, and some seemingly unable to fly and too confused to dive, escaped by hydroplaning away on their bellies, not even being able to raise their bellies clear of the water and beating heavily on the surface with the wings at each stroke. One proceeded several hundred yards in this manner before he considered himself safe. Why some seeded unable to fly, tho they seemed to possess all their flight feahters, while others flew easily is beyond my explanation. They seem to use their wings to a considerable extent to propell themselves in diving. Some, or I should say many, seemed to delight in flying as closely as possible to the bow of the ship, often circling several times to repeat the trick. At reasonably close range, though considerably short of the distance at which the birds could be identified as murres, the white line on the gape of the bill, characteristic of the Brunnich's murre, was very evident. On most it showed up as conspicuously as an identification badge. a female collected from ship had "eye brown with black iris" [?] ovary



back of feet and legs black, front of legs and toes yellowish; webs gray above, nails black. Seen on 19 of 29 obs. Total for day 111.

Brunnich's murre (2)

16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York.
The most conspicuous bird of the day. A total of 85 were seen on 13 of 28 obs. One immature was seen closely — throat and head streaked with white.

17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik
Total for day 26.

18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi. NW Upernivik.
Apparently many of the murres we are seeing are young of the year, ~~not yet able to fly.~~ ~~Several groups of~~ four were seen closely enough to determine that two were immature and two were adult. Most immatures were with ~~one or more adults, but occasionally a lone individual~~ one/or/ was observed. The water is so crystal clear that from the bridge I could clearly see the birds swimming under the/ ~~the water.~~ ~~They use their wings in the initial effort~~ to get under the water. This seems to be a difficult feat. Beneath the ~~surface~~ they progress by flapping their wings as in flight.

The most abundant and conspicuous bird today was the murre. A total of 140 were seen on 17 of 20 obs.

19 July 1946. Baffin Bay, 50 mi. NW Upernivik
Total for day, 18. The dominant bird this date.

20 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 50 mi NW Upernivik.
Total for day, 65. The dominant bird this date.

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay 20 mi SE Cape York.
Murres were much more abundant than they have been on previous days

Brunnich's murre (3)

(21 July 46 con't.)

but their abundance was completely masked by the superabundance of the dovekies. A total of 765 were seen on 27 of 27 obs. as many as 12 in a single flock.

22 July 1946 SE Devon, from Hyde Inlet to Dundas Hbr. Along with the fulmars, this was the most abundant + conspicuous bird this date. A total of 562 on 29 of 37 obs. seen in the largest flocks of the voyage — 25, 21, 18, etc.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 2 seen

27 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 25 seen.

28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 5 seen.

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. We shot a murre which had a large brood patch, but the Mounties do not know of its nesting nearby. Three seen.

30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound, Dundas Hbr. to Blanley Inlet. Frequent all along the coast; 200 est.

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 50 seen.

9 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound, (center of sound, between Powell Inlet and Graham Hbr.). 13 (1, 1, 1, 5, 5) seen.

10 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., 15 mi. of Maxwell Bay. ~~43 (5, 6, 3, 4, 10, 15) seen.~~ 9 (2, 1, 1, 3, 1) seen.

11 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd., of Admiralty Inlet 4 (3, 1,) seen. Now in Admiralty Inlet

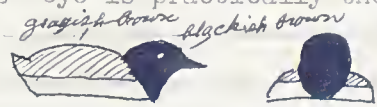
Brunnich's Murre (4)

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 3 just off the harbor mouth.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 10 seen.
14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 seen.
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay 1 seen
18 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet On the approaches to Tay Bay there were hundreds of murres, up to 25 per flock. Total — 500.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 25 seen.
20 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet northwest of Tay Bay the most numerous bird. Total 135, on each of 7 obs (4, 10, 37, 20, 5, 10, 49)

21 August 1946 Lancaster Sound, between Cuning Inlet and Graham Hbr. The most interesting thing of note was the abundance of murres with young. I reported full grown immatures in Baffin Bay a month ago but now I know that they must have been just molting males. These young were about dovekie size, appeared to be exactly like the mother in coloration, and in no case was there more than one to a female. They swam very close to their mothers, and the twosome of baby and mother was always separate, never grouped with others, tho several dozen scattered pairs might be in view at one time. Young were observed only during the 5 hours of passage from off Cuning Inlet to off Graham Hbr. Numbers ~~gradually~~ diminished westward. Scattered flocks of males were seen the whole time between Dundas Hbr. and Maxwell Bay. Probably the large flocks we saw in Baffin Bay were all males. Total for day 156 (53, 62, 17, 10, 4, 5, 5).

dovekie (1)

12 July 1946 W. coast Greenland, 70 mi. off Frederikshaab
2 flew across bow.
13 July 1946 Davis Str., 30 mi off Holsteinborg.
2 seen.
14 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Disko Is.
I had a good look at a pair of dovekies passing the ship. At first glance they are almost perfect miniatures of murres, except that the brown is replaced with black. Both body form and manner of flight are the same. Total for day — 6.
15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Upernivik.
4, 5, 1; total for day, 10, all on water.
16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York.
a total of 29 seen during the day (12, 2, 5, 2, 2, 6).
17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik.
the most abundant bird this date.
a total of 47 seen (9, 2, 4, 1, 2, 20, 3, 6).
18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi. NW Upernivik.
Like the murres, dovekies seem to have, in many instances, much difficulty in submerging. I got my first really good look at dovekies tonight. They are quite different from murres when seen on the water. Of course, they are very much smaller, but on the water size may fool you. The eye of the dovekie, even at great distance, appears orange or reddish, whereas the murre's eye is practically the same color as the head.



seen on 7 of 20 abo.; a total of 50 for the day.

Dovekie (2)

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 20 mi. off Cape York, Greenland. The numbers of dovekies which we saw today was astounding. By actual count I saw 12,600, mostly in six hours between 0900 and 1600. There must have been three or four times more than that concervative estimate. Between 0900 and 1600 they were always in sight, sometimes in large scraggly flocks on the water, sometimes in tight compact flights in the air. At times the whole sea was covered like a patchwork quilt as far as the eye could reach, with flocks of dovekies. On the water the flocks were usually long and strungout, usually in confirmation with the swells.

Often there were as many or more than a hundred and fifty birds/in birds in single flocks of this sort. More compact flocks contained many less individuals. Usually not more than 25 or/50/ or 50. Some flocks, notabley the scraggly ones, usually took to the air well in advance of the ship. A large proportion of the small compact flocks in the path of the ship made their escape by diving, usually to surface only after the ship had passed, but sometimes popping up in the wake at the beam, only to duck under immediately again. as many as 2100 were counted in one 15 min. observation period.

22 July 1946 Baffin Bay a few miles of Philpot's I. Seen in pack ice – a lone individual and a flock of 50.

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. More than 2,000 near Saunders Island.

5 Aug 1946 Etah, Greenland. Dr. Lemons, Army QM, went ashore last week, at Etah. Found dovekies ("little auks") nesting by the "millions" on the well vegetated talus slopes of the fjord. Several were caught when they refused to leave their eggs.

20 Aug 1946 Navy Board Inlet 2 flying at northern entrance.

Dovekie (3)

21 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. Two Dovekies were seen at longitude 87°W — the furtherest west we have seen them. Except that they took off and flew away I would have passed them up as young murre that had lost their mother.

guillemot (1)

15 July 1946. Baffin Bay, 45 mi. off Upernivik. Size of murre, but black all over, except for large white wing patches. Total for day 4.

18 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi. NW Upernivik Three (1, 2) seen.

20 July 1946 Baffin Bay 50 mi NW Upernivik Total for day, 8. One landed so close to ship that coral red feet could be seen.

21 July 1946 Baffin Bay, off Thule Four seen (1,1,2)

22 July 1946 SE Devon, from Bethune Inlet to Dundas Hbr. A total of 5 (1,1,1,1,1).

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 seen.

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 2 seen.

30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound One off Cuming Inlet. at least 9 in ice floes off Stanley Inlet. Total, 10.

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 10 seen. Some carrying food.

2 Aug 1946 Thule 5 seen.

4 Aug 1946 Thule One that we shot in the harbor had traces of the white winter plumage and mouth and feet abnormally pale. It was found to be infested with tape worms.

9 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sd, off Stratton Inlet one seen.

guillemot (2)

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. a flock of 25 feeding in the water at the west point of the harbor mouth.
14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 15 (3, 12). Guillemots are more conspicuous and in larger flocks now than 3 weeks ago. Some evidently have moved in from somewhere [or are now feeding young?]
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 1 seen.
21 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound, off Maxwell Bay. Numerous about the only ice floes encountered - total 13. Guillemots are among the most characteristic birds of floes.

Puffin

8 July 1946 off E coast of Newfoundland.
One flying landward at 1015 appeared solid black. An
adult with red bill floating on water
near ship at 1030 appeared much smaller
than I had imagined. One at 1100 flew
back + forth across bow several times
flying away it appears all black.
In side view, white belly and red
bill conspicuous. Total for day — 3.

razor-b. auk

14 July 1986 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Disko Is.
One flew up from bow of ship. Sharp black + white coloration evident and widespread, extended feet conspicuous in takeoff. I've noted that murres also show this characteristic in landing, taking off, and often in banking.

Snowy owl

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., ~~South~~ Devon Is.
The RCMP report that it is to be found "on the icecap" but not here.

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. I picked up a great many lemming filled pellets around all the little knolls bordering the till plain at the head of the harbor. Pellets also picked up at D.H. on 23 July and at Croker Bay on 13 & 15 Aug.

Raven

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
3 seen.
29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. The mounties think the ravens nest far up in the heads of the valleys near the icecap. First seen this year on 9 Mar, when one flew over the station.
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 1 seen near the village.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Several persons reported a raven that passed close to the anchored ship during the day. The marines brought in one that they shot at their camp near the glacier east of D.H.
14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 seen.
16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. (north shore) 1 seen.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 3 seen.

Wheatear

2 August 1946 Thule, Greenland As far as I am concerned, the trip has been worthwile even if we were to start back tomorrow, for I saw the birds I have most wanted to see, ever since I first started studying birds--Greenland wheatears. The wheatear always seemed to me to be one of the most exotic of N. A. birds and one which American ornithologists are least likely to see. Today I saw four family groups of wheatears--the young full grown but still sporting patches of down. They were among the most curious of birds we saw and several times individuals came from a long distance to inspect us at close range. Most birds seem remarkably wary. The alarm note of the wheatear sounds something like that of the Maryland yellow-thr., but is louder and sharper, and a sharp whistle is injected after every few notes. They are noticably thrush-like in form but the conspicuous white tail with black "T" and the tail wagging habit confound this impression. They were noted in a variety of habitats---in the jumbled rocks atop high ridges and along rocky streambanks. Total 7 (2,2,2,1)

4 Aug 1946 Thule. 1 seen.

horned lark

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
Al Duvall collected a juvenal bird that proved to be a horned lark.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. along the beach about 2 mi. east of Croker Bay I discovered two horned larks, a bright adult and an immature. I missed two shots at the immature unfortunately, but secured the immature according to our available literature, these are the first horned larks recorded north of Lancaster Sound.

redpoll

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland An adult redpoll which we saw on a gravelly moraine at the village had forehead and chin red, and rump conspicuously white. It was pale enough so that it blended in perfectly with its gray gravel surroundings.

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. a flock of 8 small finches seen near Croker Bay may have been redpolls.

Lapland Longspur

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
Thule seen.

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Along moist sloughs in the grassy plain east of the RCMP station I noticed ~~brown~~ families of Lapland Longspurs, ~~the young short-tailed and evidently just out of~~ the nest. The young appeared distinctly yellowish, and the bright plumaged adults were a far ~~cry from the drab birds seen in the United States~~ in the winhertime.

2 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland Longspurs were numerous, ~~mostly in marshy areas, and most seemed to be~~ still nesting--tho we collected one young almost full grown. I watched one brilliant male which ~~had a mouthfull of insects for a long while~~ hoping it would go to its nest, but I had to move on without locating it. Total, 8(3,3,1,1)

3 Aug 1946 Thule. One singing male in muskeg above airstrip

4 Aug 1946 Thule. Several noted gathering food — insects. Most longspurs still are feeding small young, many evidently still in the nest, but I have noticed several family groups of full grown young. These have a distinctly olive or even yellowish appearance. Total, 12 (1, 1, 10)

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 1 seen.

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. One seen near Croker Bay.

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay Two seen.

Snow bunting (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hb. Peon Is
The RCMP report it common.
Young began leaving the
nest two weeks ago. First seen this
year on May.

23 July 1946 Dundas Harbor. Birds proved to be about as abundant as might be expected in such an area. The snow bunting, in its bold black and white summer plumage, was by far the most common land bird and was reported by almost everyone who went ashore. Capt. Adams even gave an accurat description of one which he observed from the helicopter. They were mostly observed in family groups in which the young were mostly still bob-tailed. One nest with young and another with blue eggs were reported by crew members---the latter must have been colored by vivid imagination The buntings were mostly around rock outcrops and evidently nest in such locations. a total of 40 were seen.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 25 seen.
28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 25 seen.
29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. 50 seen
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. 25 seen, mostly around village.
2 Aug 1946 Thule Total, 83 (10, 3, 3, 2, 25, 10, 15, 5, 5, 5), mostly concentrated around the village, living up to the name given them by the Dundas Harbor mounties — "White English sparrow." Away from the village the snow bunting was also the most ubiquitous bird, being noted in all habitats, but most frequently in moist areas (as along patches of creeks, flooded ponds, etc) where there were many jumbled rocks. Young were mostly full grown.

snow bunting (2)

3 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. In the barren ridges and valleys south of the airstrip only occasional ringed plovers and snow buntings relieved the lifeless monotony. Total for day, 25 (1,2,2,2,3,2, 2,2,2,4,1,2)

4 Aug 1946 Thule. I noticed a flock of 25 snow buntings, the largest flock I've seen. Most are evidently thru nesting and are molting to the winter plumage, and the young are full grown but in most cases still in family groups. Occasional single birds indicate that some nesting is still going on. I discovered an old bunting nest composed of feathers and grasses in a crevice which I first mistook for a fox den, among boulders on a north facing talus slope. Total 64 (12,2,5,25,20).

8 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Duvall made an observation on the snow bunting at Dundas Harbor a week or ten days ago that I have forgotten to record in its proper place. A glaucous gull was flying along the inland edge of a coastal bench when suddenly it was accosted by a snow bunting. After a flurry of wings, the gull, monstrous beside the little bunting, reversed its course. Then, after flying a few yards it seemed to change its mind and turned and continued its previous course, ignoring the attacks of the bunting.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Total 35 (5,2,3,25).

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Along the beach to Croker Bay, birds, except snow buntings, were very scarce. In a trek thru a lovely little valley up to the top of the coast range I saw no birds except snow buntings, tho sign of ptarmigan was abundant. Total for day 23 (5,3,15).

14 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 48 (1,2,1,4,1,1,5,15,2, 3,8,5). Three weeks ago, adults & young in family groups — Today all young, up to 15 in flock.

Snow Bunting (3)

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. 100% of individuals seen now are immatures. Croker Bay: Total for day — 55 (1, 10, 2, 15, 2, 10, 5, 3, 2, 5)
16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr (north shore) Total — 20.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. 5 seen.

Lepus groenlandicus (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is. The RCMP report hares "few" during their occupancy (8 Sep 45 to present). Still white when last seen.

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. I found no signs of hares near the station but there were a few scats on the rough, rocky, west shore of the harbor.

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Droppings noted east of village.

3 Aug 1946 Thule In the southern-most of the barren, lifeless valleys that I visited south of the airstrip, I saw one hare. It was at the base of a crumbled rock cliff and from a distance appeared to be pure white. Against the dark background it stood out like a sore thumb. When I began to approach it, it began a leisurely ascent of the cliff and disappeared over the top of the ridge before I could come within shotgun range. The region where I saw the hare was practically devoid of vegetation.

4 August 1946 Thule I observed several white hares among the boulders on the high barren ridges just south of Wolstenholme Fjord, near the icecap. Also saw many droppingsand what seemed to be forms scratched in the dirt. All the rabbits were quite wild, Evidently the hares resort to these boulder fields in the summertime for protection, even tho food is very scarce in such areas. In the winter when their color is an asset, they are safe to descend to the lowlands. Certainly at this time to the year their color puts them in eternal danger.

Last week of July 1946 Etah, Greenland. Dr. Lemons, Army QM found foxes & hares numerous.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. In well vegetated boulder fields bordering the glacial fan at the head of the harbor rabbit sign was scattered

Lepus groenlandicus (2)

but periodically abundant. The boulder fields where hares seem most abundant are so rough that you can't watch for the hares because you have to watch every step you take to keep your footing. Ptarmigan droppings are usually found in the same places.

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Many signs of hares, as well as fox and ptarmigan, were observed in a lovely little green valley leading up to the summit of the coast range.

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. a relatively fresh hare skull found at an active fox den at the north end of the harbor.

18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot I. Seen by several crew members.

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot I. Sault & Mashburn saw a hare near the harbor which they said was very large and bluish-gray.

Dicrostonyx groenlandicus (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. The RCMP report none seen during their occupancy (8 Sep 1945 to present).

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. There was much old sign of lemmings but not very much new. Evidently they are not very common just now, but there are nevertheless a few, for there were skull fragments in most of the fox scats, and I located three or four evidently active colonies and several sizeable dung heaps. Evidently they don't make runways like Microtus, but they have similar dumps, most frequently in low moist spots. All the active colonies I located were in moist mossy areas. I found one well-built surface nest which I attribute to lemmings. It was in a mossy area of perhaps six acres in extent. It was made of dried grasses and mosses, was cylindrical in form, six inches in diameter, and twelve inches deep, and was fitted snugly into the live mosses and was almost flush with them at the surface.----I later realized that all of this was old winter sign, dating from one or two winters past!

1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. no sign of lemmings.

12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. A few signs of lemmings in the glacial valley at the head of the harbor.

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Old lemming nests are abundant everywhere, but there are no new ones, and even "new-looking" burrows yield nothing when excavated.

Dicrostonyx groenlandicus (2)

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. Many lemming burrows, seemingly fresh, on the sparsely vegitated lowlands. Also much sign of fox and owl.

Alopex lagopus (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is
The RCMP report foxes "fairly common" during their occupancy (Sep 45 to present)
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Fox scats were everywhere, and on two low ridges near the beach I found well developed and evidently occupied burrows. Each ridge had half a dozen or more burrows.
30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound. Numerous tracks in fresh snow on icefloes between Hobhouse & Blanley Inlets.
1 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Scats noted.
Last week of July 1946 Etah, Greenland. Dr. Lemons, Army QM, found foxes & hares numerous.
12 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. The glacial fan at the head of the harbor is quite barren of life, but foxes are evidently numerous around its edges, and there are some signs of lemmings.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. In a lovely little green valley leading up to the summit of the coast range there were fresh fox tracks in mud along the stream. Also numerous evidence of hare & ptarmigan

alopex lagopus (2)

15 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Al flew over to the Marine Camp east of P.H. to pick up a fox that they had caught raiding their supplies. It was sort of mutilated, and, in fact, had already been buried when Al arrived to get it. Its pelage was short blue fur with just a few long white hairs beginning to come in, mostly on face and feet.

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Near a much used series of fox dens in a rock ledge at the north end of the harbor I found a good hare skull, relatively fresh, as well as some lemming remains. Some officers from the Beltrami purchased several white fox hides from the Eskimos at $25 each.

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. Along with seemingly fresh lemming burrows, much sign of fox and owl. Ship's officers purchased white fox furs at Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay for as much as $30.

wolf
canis lupus

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is.
The RCMP reported that a pack of 20 passed the station on a westerly course in March this year. otherwise they had seen none during their occupancy (8 Sep 45 to present).

Mustela erminea

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr, Devon Is.
The RCMP report the ermine "frequent" here.
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. I saw no sign of weasels, but Capt. Dorsey and Comdr. Dale reported seeing a tan animal a foot long and with snake-like movements in a rocky area — evidently a weasel.
16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Comdr. O'Neill saw a weasel near the RCMP sta. which he said was brownish-gray. Mr. Campbell purchased 3 white weasel skins from the Eskimos (not necessarily local product)

Thalarctos maritimus (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr, Devon Is.
The RCMP report the polar bear fairly common and easily killed by bringing to bay with dogs. Several were killed here this spring.
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. A few bones on the beaches.

29 Jul 1946 Dundas Hbr. I picked up another good bear skull, and found numerous bear bones in pits left by explorers or early inhabitants of this place. A polar bear, said to have been a large one, raided the marine encampment last night and created no little excitement. Axes and shovels were the only defensive weapons and there seems to have been but one rifle available. The marine who ran for the rifle, ran so fast that he didn't have time to stop for it, so the bear escaped with its life.

30 Jul 1946 Lancaster Sound, between Fobhouse Inlet & Blanley Inlet. Polar bear tracks were common in the fresh snow on the heavy ice floes, but at several places I saw where a bear had pulled himself up onto the ice, walked across and taken to the water again on the other side. Fox tracks were also numerous. There were many seals of several species, in the ice floes

15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay, Devon Is.
The mounties say their Eskimos made but one trip to Croker Bay during the winter, and bagged ten bears. They decline

Character (2)

that Croker Bay is a regular bear stronghold. Perhaps it is. Today, on the lake-dotted east plain I found to sets of bear tracks, apparently fresh. One measured ten inches across and had sunk from one to six inches into mud into which I sunk 1/4 inch.
19 Aug 1946 Taff Bay, Bylot Is. Ship's Officers purchased bear skins at Pond Inlet & Arctic Bay for as much as $15.

Odobenus rosmarus (1)

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. The RCMP report walruses "numerous". Several killed recently.

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. Among the bones on the beach, the commonest were of walrus. I saw fragments of dozens of skulls. There were many fragment of ivory from the tusks which the Eskimos had sawed into lengths and discarded the inferior portions. I hadn't realized before that the tusks were hollow (hollow only at the upper end). Walrus bones seemed much heavier than the other bones encountered. They must be considerably denser in construction. I mistook an Eskimo whittled walrus mandible pair that I picked up on the beach for narwhal! Actually it bore no resemblance to narwhal, but also was quite altered from its walrus appearance.

24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. The mounties brought us a walrus skull, tusks and all----much to their Eskimos' dismay. The ivory of the tusks has considerable value to the Eskimo, and all the skulls we found on the beach had the tusks broken out. The only signs of them are the inferior sections which have been sawed off and discarded. The skull the mounties brought us was filled with fly maggots and cleaning it was a dirty job. It was of a young female killed in June.

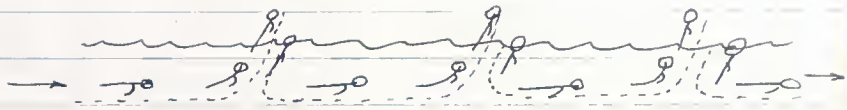
28 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Old bones found near Marine Glacier east of D.H. Walruses were first seen this year on 29 June. Some were seen in the harbor today.

Last week of July 1946 Etah, Greenland. Dr. Lemons, Army QM., found walruses common on ice

floes in Smith Sound, off Etah.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. On the
western shore of the harbor we
found dozens of walrus skulls,
most of them intact, except for
the lack of tusks of course. There
were also some bear, seal,
white whale, and dog remains.
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay. The most
abundant bones along the east
shore were those of walrus. I
even found one whole walrus
which evidently had washed onto
the beach several years ago. The
hide and tusks were still
intact. Seal & white whale remains
were also numerous.
19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is. Eskimos
showed me caches of two
large male walruses they
had recently killed. They chopped with great skill
with hatches the tusks from
the heads.

Harp seal
Phoca groenlandica

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. Another seal, called "jar", arrived about the same time as we last week; the first time the mounties or the Eskimos have seen it here. They think possibly the ships are responsible for its being here. I've noticed that the seals do seem to be rather disturbed by the activity in the harbor. When the Beltrami went into the harbor while we were still aground the other day, I noticed that several sizable herds of seals left the harbor and headed seaward soon after it entered. Seals seem to be curious creatures and poke their heads and shoulders out of the water to look around. They seem to be awed by such large ships as the Northwind and after one quick look, generally come up for a second glance, as tho unbelieving, and then hit the bottom for good. When travelling or playing they bounce straight up out of the water, slide back in and then bounce up again a little further on:



This species is now abundant in the harbor.

13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Waiting on the west point at the harbor entrance for our pickup, we saw ~~quite~~ at close range quite a few harp seals moving out of the harbor. There were several large groups, as well as many smaller. Most were males. Their black face masks were conspicuous when they rose out of the water to look around. The black patches on their backs showed when they dived. Al saw some playing which rose out of the water and flipped over backwards. At least 100 individuals were seen.

bearded seal
Erignathus barbatus

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. We secured a seal shot by the Eskimos on the 27th. It was shot 100 yards off the station with a .22 cal. rifle. Seals skink to the bottom when killed, so they must be shot only on ice or in shallow water where they can be easily fished out. In deep water they are harpooned and kept afloat by inflated sealskin bags. For this seal Al Duvall paid the Eskimos the equivalent of a dollar in tobacco, etc. We obtained the hide, flippers, skull, and stomach. This seal is what the Eskimos call "Oojouk", and it arrived in this vicinity only about 2 weeks ago. The mounties say that the oojouk seal does not grow as large here as further south.

30 July 1946 Lancaster Sound, near Devon. Seals of several kinds, some of them large, were abundant in the ice floes between Hobhouse Inlet & Blanley Inlet. They were almost continuously in sight. Several large seals lying on the ice were called walruses by the ship's captain and everyone else, but I could descern no tusks.

ringed seal
Phoca hispida

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is.
The common small seal here is called "Netcheck". One I saw today only a few feet off the beach seemed all gray, head & shoulders at least.

19 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is.
Eskimo tents here were constructed mostly of ringed seal skins, but they may not have originated locally, caribou hides in their possession had been ~~[illegible]~~ purchased at the Pond Inlet H.B. post.

seal sp.? (1)

11 July 1946 West coast of Greenland - 60 mi. off Frederikshaab. A dark brown bearded seal reported ~~seen~~ close to the ship.
15 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 45 mi off Upernivik. Four seals reported on an iceberg.
16 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi SE Cape York 2 light brown seals on an iceberg.
17 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 100 mi NW Upernivik. 4 resting in a wave cave on the leeward side of a growler.
21 July 1946 Baffin Bay, 20 mi off Cape York We saw three small seals in the water near the ship at different times during the day. Each time, just a head sticking above water for a few moments.
22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is. The RCMP report seals common and often killed by the Eskimos. I saw one off Philpot's Is. this date.
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is. Seal bones very numerous on the beaches. Several (9) seals were sunning themselves on ice at the head of the harbor. All were small, and all the skulls I have found were small. Seals (Phoca groenlandica) were seen several times playing in various parts of the harbor.
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Numerous small herds in hbr. and off hbr. mouth (Phoca groenlandica)
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay. Seal bones numerous along coast shore.

seal sp.? (2)

21 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound 1 seen in icefloe off Maxwell Bay.

caribou

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
the RCMP had seen none during their occupancy here (8 Sep 45 - to present) but said they were supposed to occur to the north & west.
23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is. A few fragmentary bones & antlers on the beaches & in prehistoric bone pits.
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. I found old antlers near the marine glacier, east of D. H.
8 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. Found a few old caribou bones near the head of Wolstenholme Fjord.
18 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is.
Dr. Lemons has a beautiful set of antlers that he found on a mountain nearby.

Muskox

22 July 1946 Dundas Harbor, Devon Is.
The RCMP here report no muskoxen seen during their occupancy (8 Sep 45 – this date)
3 Aug 1946 Thule, Greenland. In the barren, lifeless valleys south of the airstrip I found several very old and weathered muskox skulls. This species was exterminated here many years ago.
13 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. Dr. Sault brought in a large muskox skull which he found about a mile east of the RCMP post. It was so fresh that the meat tissues adhering to it were still red. Its horns had been sawed off. The mounties say that none have been seen or killed since they came here last sept.

Bowhead whale

23 July 1946 Dundas Hbr., Devon Is.
In a partially exposed bone pit on the east side of the hbr. I discovered the bones of a large baleen whale. The skull measured 4 ft. across the occipital condyles, and one bone, probable a mandible, measured 18" in diameter at the articular surface.

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Found another old whale skull east of the RCMP station, somewhat smaller than that mentioned above.

16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. The pilots — O'Neill + Tanner reported a 50 ft. black whale seen from the air in Lancaster Sound. The spout was a single plume directed diagonally forward. This description might fit Physeter if it is accurate.

fin-back whale (Balaenoptera)

5 July 1946 Gulf of Maine. at 1415 one small individual rolled momentarily at the surface some distance from the ship. (42°23'N - 70°54'W at 1200, 42°43.5'N - 68°42'W at 2000). (moved out of sight of land at 1500)

9 July 1946 200 mi. off Str. of Belle Isle. A large whale reported by ship's crew.

10 July 1946 Labrador sea, midway between Belle Isle & Cape Farewell. Crew reported two large whales spouting at 2000.

11 July 46 West coast of Greenland - 60 mi off Frederikshaab. One of the crew reported seeing a large whale spouting; another reported two others.

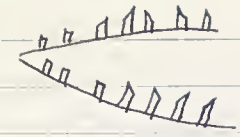
Killer whale

29 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. The RCMP report having seen a killer catch a narwhal near the station in Sep 1945.

Delphinapterus leucas

22 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Devon Is
The RCMP report this the commonest whale. Several were killed last fall from a herd traveling close to the shore.

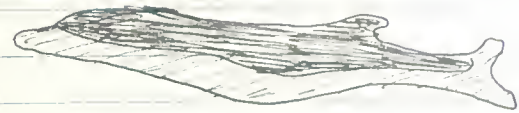
24 July 1946 Dundas Hbr. Al Duvall found a skull on the beachthat had been so recently killed (probably last fall) that it was still covered with dried meat and still had the peg-like teeth intact. An interesting point of note was that the teeth were worn in opposite directions on opposite sides of the jaw, why I don't know:



According the RCMP log, white whales were seen from 17-28 Sep 1945, together with narwhals.
14 Aug 1946 Lancaster Sound. One of the observation planes spotted 5 white whales off SW Devon from an altitude of 5,000 ft.
15 Aug 1946 Croker Bay. numerous white whale bones along east shore.
16 Aug 1946 Dundas Hbr. The pilots, O'Neill and Tanner reported another white whale seen from the air.

• dolphin sp.?

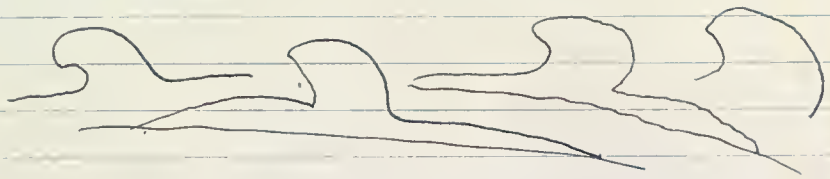
6 July 1946 – 50 mi. off E coast of Nova Scotia
school of about 6 played about ships
bow and wake for 5 min at 1415.
Dark brown above and light brown
below with sharp line of demarcation.



at 1830 – four more of same kind
were seen.
7 July 1946 off Cabot Str. 3 reported
by ship's crew.
8 July 1946 off Newfoundland, E coast
One seen at 1345. not observed well
enough to describe.

Globicephala

9 July 1946 200 mi. off Str. of Belle Isle.
Fifteen blackfish, together with 200 fulmars feeding on school of small fish. Seen at very close range. Solid black color, big dorsal fin noted.



Monodon monoceros

22 July 1946 Dundas Hb., Devon Is
~~The RCMP report~~ it fairly common. Several were killed last fall. Seen from 17-28 Sep 45, together with white whales.
9 Aug 1946 Tay Bay, Bylot Is.
One of the ship's officers traded a 6 ft. narwal tusk from Eskimos.